# ripping thrash.

Astro Art'97.

ISSUE 13 APRIL 1997 70P

**SPITE**

**FUNBUG**

**LITHUANIA**

**SPECIAL "PROBLEM CHILD" ISSUE!**

RIPPING THRASH ZINE
C/O STEVE
P O BOX 152
BURTON-ON-TRENT
STAFFS DE14 1XX
ENGLAND

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HALLE 54, SPITE, FUNBUG, LITHUANIA SCENE REPORT, PUNK'S KINDA NICE RIGHT NOW, AND A BUCKETLOAD OF REVIEWS ETC!

Cover art by Colin Astro.

## BACK ISSUES:

#12 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE, LOADS OF COPIES STILL AVAILABLE, PRICE 50p + SAE
#9 (JAWBREAKER, ENGLISH DOGS ETC) 50p + SAE
#7 (DR & THE CRIPPENS ETC) 10p + SAE
#4 (RAPED TEENAGERS ETC) 10p + SAE
ALL OTHER ISSUES SOLD OUT COPIES OF #11 (SPLIT WITH HELL AND DAMNATION) STILL AVAILABLE FROM HELL AND DAMNATION ADDRESS (SEE ZINE REVIEW SECTION!) FOR 70P + SAE (OR £1 PPD)

LOOK OUT FOR RT #14 OUT IN JULY/AUGUST 97 - I HAVE SOME STUFF DONE FOR IT ALREADY, SO HOPEFULLY IT'LL BE OUT ON TIME!!! (GASP..)

## EDITORIAL MARCH 20TH 1997:

Hello again and welcome to another issue of RT. Why a Problem Child special issue? Well, Paul was kind enough to send me a load of stuff that he received after packing in his excellent zine, so a lot of the contributions are his! The Spite and Funbug interviews are his, and he also sent me a fair bit of stuff to review. Cheers mate. Contributions make all the difference! Thanks to John for wanting to do this split with me, and for help/friendship in general. Mega thanks also to Barry, Chrisz Meier and Domas for their contributions. And thanks to Colin for more super cover art! Finally, thanks to all the other people who help me in any way, too many to name, and thanks/hello to Andras and Michelle for putting me up on my recent travels!

More distros needed for this zine, as there's 900 of these floating about!! Also, there are still loads of copies of RT12 around, so I need more help with distro of those... See you in the summer! Steve.

## AD RATES FOR RT#14

The ad rates have been a bit fucked up lately, so here now are some set rates. I want more of your ads, especially zines and DIY distros! The rates for #14 are: Full Page £10 Half Page £6 Quarter Page £2. Deadline for ads & money to be in is 10/7/97, OK? Probably best to write first to see what space I have left!!

## NEWS:

**H.S.S. is currently a show being aired on Cable Radio Milton Keynes (CRMK).**
Anyone wishing to send CDs and vinyl for airplay, please forward with biog, info etc to: **ANNE MARIA / HARDCORE STREET SOUNDS / CRMK / 14 VINCENT AVENUE / MILTON KEYNES / MK8 0AB.**
This is a specialised show and caters for punk, oi!, hardcore, crossover and some extreme metal, the show is on every Saturday 10pm to Midnight. (Demos welcomed too).

**Greek band CHAOTIC END**, featured two issues ago in the split with Hell and Damnation, have split up, due apparently to purely musical differences. A new band called **HIBERNATION** have formed from their ashes, and they have the typical Chaotic End sound. I've heard a good quality rehearsal from them, and it's ace, so watch out for more from them.....

**News from the DS4A camp:**
hopefully a Police Bastard / P.A.I.N split LP out this year, plus new releases by Crass (!) and Oi Polloi...
**Write to: BOX 8 / 82 COLSTON STREET / BRISTOL.**

## NOT THAT KIND OF TWAT by John Binns

I do not feel well,
And I feel like hell
Has descended on me,
And I cannot see
Very far.

So lead me to the bar,
No cancel that,
Fir I am not
That kind of twat
Anymore
For
I have learned the score.

John Binns
14 Silver Royd Close
Wortley
Leeds
LS12 4QZ.

The Halle 54 piece on the following page was originally meant for the last issue, as an 10 year anniversary piece, as I have been in semi-regular contact with Chrisz from Halle 54 for most of the ten years, and one of my first comp tapes featured one of their early demos. Alas, the piece didn't arrive until #12 was being printed, but it's an interesting little piece, so I thought I'd still include it this time. Thanks to Chrisz for contributing.

WE ARE NEARING THE TURN OF THE MILLENNIUM AND ARE LIVING IN A WORLD WITHOUT MORAL, IN WHICH MEN HAVE TURNED THEMSELVES INTO SLAVES OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE MEDIA ARE, AS SURROGATE RELIGION, THE NEW OPIUM FOR THE PEOPLE. ONE QUARTER OF HUMANITY LIVES TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE REMAINING THREE QUARTERS, BUT WANTS TO CLOSE THE BORDERS FOR THE REFUGEES FROM THIS MISERY. SOLIDARITY HAS CHANGED INTO A SWEARWORD AND NEIGHBOURS KILL EACH OTHER BECAUSE OF THEIR 'WRONG' NATIONALITY. CREATIVITY HAS BEEN SUFFOCATED BY CONSUMERISM. STUPIDITY HAS WON ONCE AND FOR ALL AND EVERY ATTEMPT AT A SELF-GOVERNED LIFE IS CRIMINALIZED, PERSECUTED AND DESTROYED. IN SHORT: IN A 'BRAVE NEW WORLD'.

THERE IS NO ROOM HERE FOR A BAND LIKE HALLE 54. WE ARE OLD, WE DON'T LIKE CDS, WE SING OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS AND HALF OF THE BAND CONSISTS OF DUTCHMEN AND GREEKS. WHY DON'T WE JUST LET IT BE? BECAUSE WE SEE NO REASON TO HIDE OUR HEADS IN THE SAND. WE CAN STILL 'THROW IN THE TOWEL', BUT ONLY IF THERE ARE NO ALTERNATIVES. UNTIL THEN (OR UNTIL WE ARE IMMOBILISED BY RHEUMATISM) WE PREFER TO ROAM THE COUNTRY AND TRY TO SHOW THE PEOPLE OUR POINTS OF VIEW. AND THAT SINCE 1984 IN A RELATIVELY CONSTANT LINE-UP: UWE MEYER (VOCALS), CHRISZ MEIER (BASS), ANDRÉ OTTENHOF (DRUMS) AND CHRISTOS MAMALITSIDIS (ELECTRIK GUITAR).

SINCE THE BEGINNING WE HAVE PRESENTED OUR LYRICS, THAT SOMETIMES ARE GLOOMY, SOMETIMES CYNICAL AND IRONICAL, BUT ALWAYS POLITICALLY UNAMBIGUOUS, IN A MIXTURE THAT IS THE RESULT OF FOUR INDIVIDUALS MERGING THEIR PREFERENCES IN (AND LOVE OF) VIOLENT MUSIC. OTHERS MAY PLAY POP, WE DON'T. WE ARE ALWAYS IN SEARCH OF PEOPLE THAT ARE WORTH MEETING: PEOPLE WITH HEART AND SOUL, WITH EYES THAT SEE AND LINKING HANDS. PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

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CONTACT: CHRISZ MEIER . LUDWIGSTRASSE 25 . 38106 BRAUNSCHWEIG . GERMONEY

# Oh Shit It's FUNBUG AGAIN!!

**I GUESS MOST OF YOU KNOW OF MELODIC PUNK/HC BAND FUNBUG, FROM REDDITCH, THEY USED TO BE IDENTITY AT ONE TIME. THEY SEEM TO GET GIGGING AROUND A FAIR BIT, AND ALWAYS SEEM TO HAVE A LAUGH. ANYWAY, THIS INTERVIEW WAS KINDLY DONE BY PAUL OF PROBLEM CHILD ZINE (CHEERS!), IT WAS MEANT FOR HIS NEXT ISSUE, BUT SADLY HE HAS PACKED IN HIS ZINE... ANSWERS ARE BY JASON, INTERVIEW DONE EARLY SUMMER '96...**

**'SPUNKIER' IS A GOOD SPUNKY ALBUM, BUT TO BE CONSTANTLY REFERRED TO AS A GREEN DAY CLONE MUST MAKE YOU FUCKING SICK!? FUNBUG HAVE AN ALBUM TO MAKE YOUR OWN NAME, DOES IT BUG YOU FUNBUG?**

Yes, definitely, but I blame Plastic Head for putting the "UK Green Day" on the biog thing. I love Green Day, we're the same style of punk, but we sound fuck all like them.

**YOU'VE HAD SOME COOL SUPPORT SLOTS, HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO GET THEM, SUPERB MANAGEMENT OR NICE BOYISH LOOKS AND TIGHT BOTTOMS?! ANY FAVOURITES YOU'VE SUPPORTED AND ANY FUNBUG TOUR STORIES OF YOUR ESCAPADES?**

Hmm....tricky one, we haven't got good looks, and as for management (?) that's me and Steve and we're a pair of twits. So I put it down to the incompetence of promoters !! As for stories we've got loads....but the best one would be supporting the Misfits in London. We played at 4pm, they gave us #50 and 24 cans of lager, got pissed, threw loads of beer cans at Done Lying Down, got told off, ended up playing pool with transvestites at 4.30am in an illegal gay drinking club!!! And it was the first time i've left the Astoria not flying....me and the bouncers are now best buds!!!

**FUNBUG**

Next up is the debut album from Funbug. Hailing from Redditch obviously helps their sunny surfcore sound and 'Spunkier' (Golf Records) could have been a surefire summer smash but back then it was nowhere to be seen

Punkers Funbug are the town's most e

**DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELVES PUNKS? OR JUST PART OF A MUSICAL SCENE? HAVE YOU ANY POLITICAL FEELINGS? OR IS FUNBUG IN IT FOR FUN? DOES POLITICS SUCK? THUS MEANING YOU'D RATHER SING NICE SONGS AND MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY?**

I'm a "punko", i'm into politics big time, but I don't preach much. F.T.B off 'Spunkier' stands for Fucken Tory Bastards, it's a serious song but the singalong at the end is supposed to be fun.But overall I think words don't mean shit if you've got a good tune?

**I NOTICED ON THE ALBUM COVER, 2 T-SHIRTS WORN OF OTHER BANDS: SKIMMER AND WACT. HAVE YOU HAD A PARTICULAR FAVOURITE T-SHIRT, YOU KNOW, YOU'VE WASHED IT A 100 TIMES AND IT'S SO FUCKING BAGGY YOU COULD FIT THREE PEOPLE IN IT!!! BUT YOU WOULDN'T PART WITH IT FOR NOBODY ? DO YOU HAVE FUNBUG T-SHIRTS AND CAN I HAVE ONE (WORTH A TRY?!)**

I've got one particular T-shirt and it's my DESCENDENTS All LP Tee I bought about 8 years ago so it's well knackered through being my favourite gig Tee. You can have a Funbug Tee as long as you send me a Problem Child one? And I want to see the answer in print!!!

**ARE YOU A CD MAN OR A VINYL MAN? DO YOU REALLY GIVE A SHIT? WAS THE ALBUM CD ONLY?**

I was pro-vinyl, though buying Cds for bonus tracks for years, but I don't give a hoot now, I only buy CDs, unless it's a vinyl only release.

**WHAT ARE THE MOST STUPIDEST HAIRCUTS EACH OF YOU HAVE HAD OR DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE THEM NOW?**

Umm....i've got the stupidest haircut now, it's bright red and spikey, I had the stupidest haircut two weeks ago also when I had smelly multicoloured dreads. Before I waxed, now I gel !!

**HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET A SINGLE ON LOOKOUT RECORDS (usa) ?DID YOU GET MUCH AMERICAN ATTENTION THROUGH IT? WOULD YOU FANCY PLAYING THERE?**

We got on Lookout after Lawrence Livermore came to see us play and liked us though we could hardly walk or talk, didn't get much attention on the good ole U.S of Stateside, well not that I know of anyway. Yeah, we're going to the US this Aug/Sept (1996 - ed) for a two week tour with 88 Fingers Louie.

# Saying goodbye

# Funbug are top of Reddi

Presenting

FUNBUG

KEEPING LIVE MUSIC SHIT.

**DO YOU DANCE AT GIGS? ARE YOU A SLAMMER/POGO OR VOGUE PERSON ? CAN YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST ATTEMPT AT STAGEDIVING? DO YOU GET STRANGE MEN STANDING NEXT TO YOU IN THE TOILETS?**

Depends on my level of drunkeness, slammer/pogo/vogue, agains depends what juice I drink. I don't get strange men standing next to me in toilets, I get them to blow me.

**DO YOU THINK SAYING 'FUCK' IN PUNK SONGS IS THAT SHOCKING ANY MORE? CAN YOU REMEMBER YOUR FIRST EVER 'RUDE WORDS' RECORD YOU EVER BOUGHT / HEARD? DO YOU TEND TO SWEAR MUCH WHEN OUT AND ABOUT?**

Err....I don't know? Never thought about it? First rude record was definitely "Bodies" by the Sex Pistols, remember playing it over and over really quietly when my mom and dad were in when I was 10 or 11 years old.

**SO WHAT'S NEXT FOR FUNBUG? JUST WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ACHIEVE WITH THE BAND? ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE MASSES OF NEW FUNBUG FANS OUT THERE?**

Hopefully do a new album this summer (1996 - ed), which will probably be called "Go Home Drunk". Go to the USA. "Hi" to anyone who likes us. "Like we give a shit" to those that don't. Thanks Paul for the interview. Stay dumb, stay drunk, stay free.

**THAT'S IT, CONTACT JASON/FUNBUG AT:**

**54 LODGE ROAD / REDDITCH / WORCS / B98 8UM.**

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## PUNK'S KINDA NICE RIGHT NOW !!

"You know shit about punk!"

The drunken student, leering at various teenage girls, pissed on cheap cider, informs me, with his finger pointing at my chest. I wryly smile, thinking 'Loser', but i've gotta be nice cos i'm a guest of his friend in a oh-so-cool nightclub.

"You know shit about punk", (again), "You should like real punk, like GREEN DAY or DOWN BY LAW".

Now I think 'Fuck Off' but again I just smile, i'm on a date and I need the friends. Drunken student staggers off, muttering under his 8.4% breath to remember to inform the DJ about real punk. 10 minutes later and the ever so catchy (and profit-making, cash raking) DOWN BY LAW are treating everyone's ears. I stop smiling, swig the dregs of my beverage and fuck off home.

So kids, what's this got to do with punk being cool and racy this time around. Cast yo self back to RT 12 and ye shall witness the sad tirade of a pessimist, last time around I gave punk a real slapping and to be honest, although I haven't got a pissed off postie due to the bulging sack of hate mail, I do feel the need to clarify things a little.

First of all i'm not taking back the general criticisms in the original article but without sounding like some kind of Watty, PUNK'S NOT DEAD. OK - I ain't changed my mind or anything like that. The reason I wrote the original was so that I could get people to write back and call me a jaded pessimist - like, 'Baz, what kind of punk scene are you in??!! Here, (insert region) it's cool, move.' I need to know that people still care and give a shit about DIY HC/punk and the politics involved in it. The original was some kind of a shout - KEEP YOUR SCENE ALIVE !

Right now the UK is totally buzzing, there are some truly exciting and amazing bands, zines and other folk about. Take for example the AWA Mailout, that is such a cool idea, and it is still going, everyone into the DIY movement should be on it and send stamps to keep it free. Also there is the 1 in 12 club and all the festivals (not just the ones in Bradford), too many people slag off these places and the line-ups at the fests, but the way I see it, if you don't like it, put on your own gigs. We should celebrate a diverse scene and enjoy it, and everyone I speak to (with sense) loves this diversity. Okay, slagging off over and just to prove how cool the bands here are, here's a list of bands who've inspired me recently: HARD TO SWALLOW, UNDERCLASS, POLARIS, STALINGRAD, ACTIVE MINDS and tons more.

Okay, the other big Dis in my article were the '3 kinds of punk'. To be honest, I didn't really clarify my terms (again). Note there's no way I am getting at the active people in our scene. I am getting at the kind of person in the incident above - you know the kind who always go on about punk, letting you know about how many 'punk-points' (as I call them) they have. What i'm getting at is that in my everyday life there are too many people who are hoisting the great flag punk on the good ship image factory.

To me, punk is not about drinking special brew and going on about Crass and the Anti Nowhere League and doing fuck all else. Unfortunately, try telling someone about your scene who doesn't know much about it and more often than not they see 'punk' as a 70s hippy - no hope, no future, no life. I could quite easily substitute 'punk' with 'anarchism' and it does piss me off in my town when someone from the great unwashed shouts across the town centre, 'Oi (how punk!) Baz, Oi Class War, Oi Anarchy and Peace'. Then all three or four of the resident alcohol club give us a rendition of 'Fight War, Not Wars' etc. Again, i'm not getting at people into getting pissed and mucking about or those into the early 80s scene or travelling folk/crusty punks or whatever. In my last article I was kind of sweeping, sorry, I didn't want or mean to be. I'll say it again, punk is not about getting pissed and upsetting shoppers with your rants of 'Giz 10p' or 'God Save The Queen'. I sure as hell don't know what punk is - but i've got good ideas on what it isn't.

Another thing in my last article was a call for unity, I don't really mean that on a scene wide basis, the unity is there (I think you were right the first time Baz, there could be a lot more unity in the scene throughout the country - ed), I was just really on about my home town. It seems like all the active people have fucked off to Leeds which leaves a very fragmented scene. A year or two ago it seemed that everyone was putting on gigs and although they weren't big, we saw some cool bands and if one person stopped putting gigs on, someone else would. Now, we have a handful of bands in Preston who are all pretty cool, but they rarely/never play here, and i've got the impression that often these bands would prefer to do gigs with 'bigger bands'. I've been toying with the idea of putting on gigs with a friend and we talked about how cool it would be. However, here no fucker would turn up - nobody really talks to each other that much or have moved on/dropped out. Sorry to all the cool scenes everywhere. No apologies to home sweet home.

Preston DOES have one or two cool things going on though. I don't want to talk about bands cos a) they're usually overrated and b) they get too much coverage anyway but do check out DISCONNECTION zine and SULLEN PUTRILIGE distro. If you need any more info about these or about my benefit tape label FILTHY TAPES then get in touch.

Okay punk and hardcore is cool right now, especially (even?) here. It's cool to see the personal and the political intertwined in so many bands lyrics and also the massive amount of top quality zines out. In fact zines are usually a million times cooler cos they don't sell out or write ballads! Ho! Ho! Yeah, in fact, encourage everyone to buy more zines and loan them out to lovely folk too. We also have totally rad zines like ROLLERBALL or the totally rockin' HOW WE ROCK, and tons more. Look out for zines because they are ace and give you something to read when you are watching that dodgy rap combo which has somehow blagged its way onto an alldayer.

Some notes:

1) Punk/HC gigs are cool. If you're putting one on around the North West, let me know cos i'd love to go.

2) My old band once played with DOWN BY LAW. They were shit then too!

3) HEADACHE and HARD TO SWALLOW are my favourite bands of '96 and both begin with 'H'. I also like HIATUS. Weird!!

4) Please feel free to write, offer insults, send money or tapes full of banging techno to the following address:

BARRY FARNWORTH / 17 AVENHAM LANE /
PRESTON / LANCASHIRE/ PR1 3XN / ENGLAND.

Love, BAZ !

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# LITHUANIA SCENE REPORT

This Lithuanian scene report was donated by Domas, the guy who runs a radio show in Vilnius called LR3, and they have also just released an excellent comp of some of the bands mentioned in the report, the tape is now available from me at the Ripping Thrash address for £1.50 ppd - check it out - I was pleasantly surprised !!!

well, well, hi everybody!

believe it or not there are some punkers and hardcorers over here. where? there are baltic states behind poland, in the very east of europe. one of them is LITHUANIA, EX-soviet union republic. capital-Vilnius, population-about 3.700.000, area-25.714 sq.mi, currency-litas/centas, language-lithuanian.

of course, the strongest movement is in Vilnius, the capital (population about 700.000). punk/HC movement is quite visible here. in theory the town is divided in westside and eastside. westside is ideological, more HC (not NY hardcore!) oriented people. there was so-called "the iron fist of HC" few years ago: the most famous lithuanian punk/HC act TURBOREANIMACIJA (signed to a major label and turned to mainstream now. old stuff is powerful and good with beer), MARICHUANA (they are in agony, 'cos their leader is more interested in electronic stuff now, 2 last demos are very special music with interesting lyrics), WC NEWS (very cool in gigs, music is something like thrash/punk, split up now), A.INVAZIJA (the youngest in "the iron fist" and that is why the most powerful at the moment. influences: japanese HC scene, NY HC, NOMEANSNO, WC NEWS, etc.) and SC (this more show straight edge band: vocals, bass, trumpet and drums. good fun).

there are 3 fanzines in westside: "Decibelai Offensive", "F.Noize" and "Per Akis Į Smegenis".

the main meeting place was "I.R.S." club MARICHUANA's rehearsal hole, but there are "Porno Rec." studio established by MARICH. members now.

members of WC NEWS, MARICH., TURBOREAN. work in alternative radio station LR-3. there are punk/HC show "Blast of Jabbers", avantgarde programme "New Sounds", etc.

eastside scene is more oriented to traditional punk77 style. the main statements are taken from J.Rotten (or M.McLaren?..): I wanna be myself, I don't care, I wanna destroy, etc. there are some interesting bands. the most popular lithuanian punk/HC band called ERKĖ MAIŠE. all their records are not official, but very popular. legendary stuff. very technical. other band SKAT-typical old punk77 style music, copy of the SEX PISTOLS, PILK is lithuanian russians' band. they are oriented into russian punkrock: very poor music and very rich and wise lyrics. also there are fun/punkfolk act PUNKTAS, good fun in gigs. there was club called "Zooclub", but now they are trying to do something in a shelter…

new bands in Vilnius: dr.GREEN (ex-WC NEWS, ska/HC), VRR (a-la early the FALL), PORNO (a-la CHUMBAWAMBA, MY BLOODY VALENTINE,etc.), LIPNŪS MACHARADŽOS PIRŠTAI (reggae/indie a-la the PIXIES)…

there is no stable punk/HC club in whole Lithuania! can you imagine this?.. I can… there is a club "The Iron Hook", which is close to alternative stuff, last summer NOMEANSNO played there. last winter westsiders established real punk club "Latakas" in a neglected sweets' factory. every cold winter (there was -5 -10 degrees inside!) weekend there were abaout 200 people. it is a pity, but it was only in winter…

there are always few punks in the centre of Vilnius, but you can wait for hours to see them in other towns. there happen real battles for appearance or attitudes. it is normal to be beaten up for your old painted leather jacket or comb. macho bullshit rules lithuanian province. maybe that is why provincial summer festival so interesting. there are always few big punk fests. one of them was in 1993. punks from all over Lithuania came to a small town and started a riot there. festival was broken off by special police forces.

because of reason written above movement in province is very weak. there is a small scene in Šiauliai city. APATIJA band play punk/ska, but this is only the beginning, FLAGELACIJA (see notes about PILK), T.I.J.B. (anarchopunk). their leader publish fanzine "Province". there is a café in which punx action sometimes happen.

second lith. town Kaunas is especially well known for its machobullshit. there was very strong punk movement in '88-'91, but there isn't punk/HC bands at all now. though there is a band called PRESERVATIVE FACTORY, they are cool guys, but their music isn't so cool. there are some more acts, but they are more for fun. there is alternative music programme in local radio "Titanika". the most popular and known lith. punk/HC fanzine "Koks Nors Kelias" is published in Kaunas.

we have traditional punkrock festivals once or twice per year. they are called "The Ship Of Fools". at this moment there were 5 "ships". these fests are very popular, 200-300 punx in one place is a big amount for Lithuania.

so this is the way things are.anyway they are better than few years ago.THANX FOR YOUR ATTENTION...

/by DOMAS/ it's worth trying:

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PILK band, FRENK/KAPSŲ 20 6/VILNIUS
Dr. GREEN band, DECIBELAI OFF.zine/E MAIL: KOJA@PUB.OSF.LT
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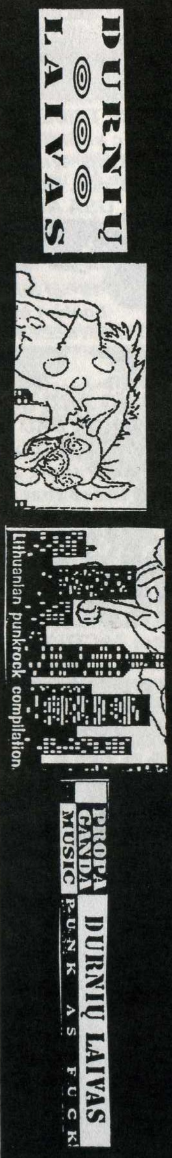

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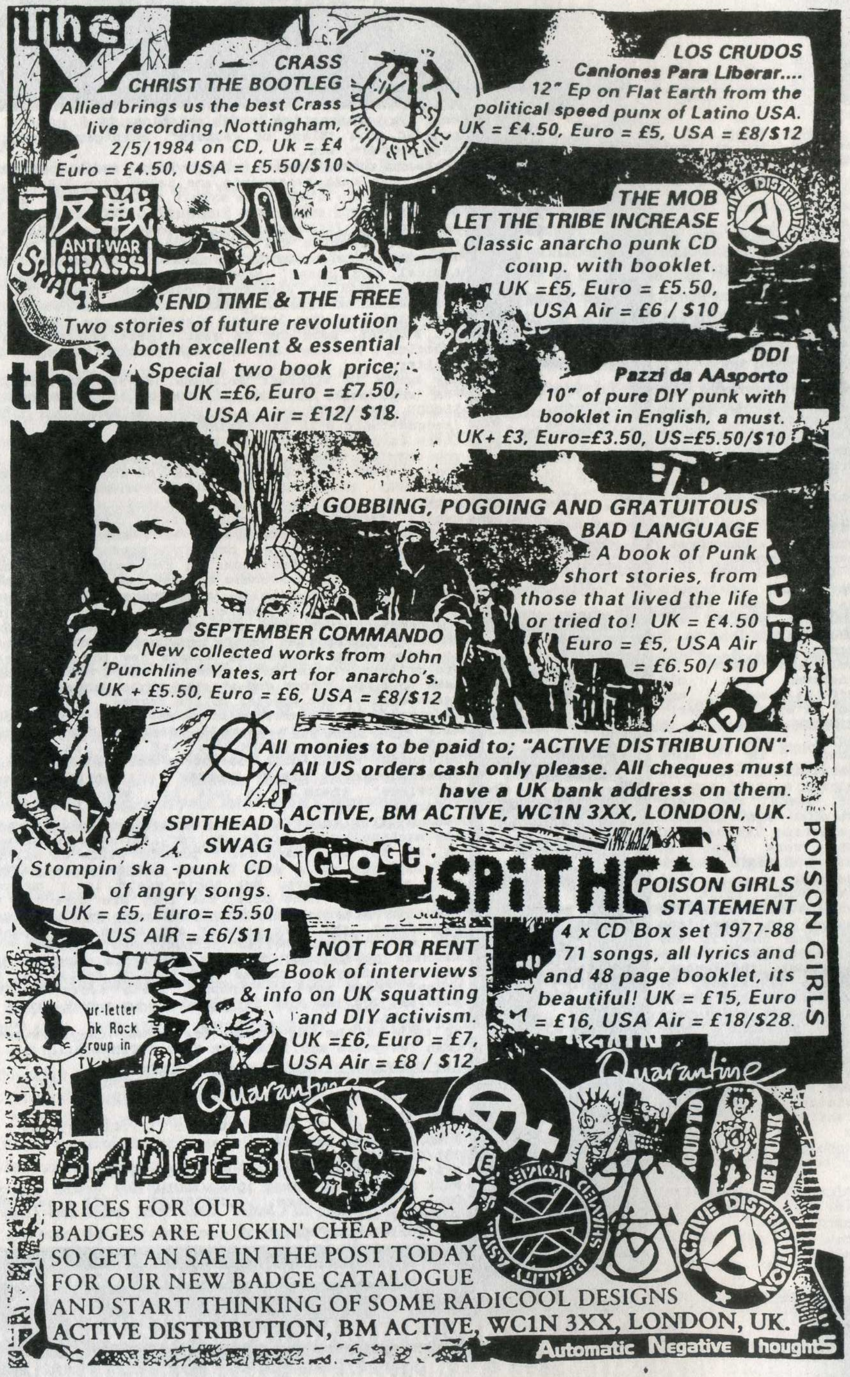

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LAST EVER INTERVIEW WITH....?

# SPITE

The following is an interview of Spite, donated by Paul of Problem Child zine! Cheers mate. Questions through the post, answers on from tape. The interview is rather old now, and Spite have recently decided to call it a day, but a new band i'm told is forming from the ashes.... Bits of the interview got missed out here and there, due to lack of space, and also in places not being able to hear on the tape what's being said!! This interview was a nightmare to transcribe!! Oh well... Answers by B: Beckie P: Pete J: John S: Steve

***BLIMEY, IS IT THE YEAR OF PUNK SUPERGROUPS, OR HARDCORE BANDS FULL OF X'S, OR LIKE POLICE BASTARD AND NOW SPITE, HOW DID THE BAND MANAGE TO GET ROUND TO FORMING?***

J: I dunno! It seemed a good idea at the time.

S:Is the tape recorder on?!

J: Yep! Pete phoned me up, or asked me, didn't you...

P: I asked you cause you were in TEN FOLD A, basically you should leave that band cause they're shite and start a band with me so about two weeks later you did

J: I was nagged by everyone down here, the Bristol punk scene, to get back into punk

P: Then Beckie joined, we had a few practices with just the three of us, then Steve basically grovelled and begged to join the band and because we said no a few times didn't we..

S: I had to put a good word in, cause Pete wasn't too impressed to start off with.

***THE TRACK LAST ORDERS ABOUT PISSED UP IDIOTS CAUSING TROUBLE, IS THIS THROUGH EXPERIENCE THAT THE SONG IS WRITTEN?***

P: Well basically Steve you've got to answer that question.

S: Yeah, well where me and John come from..

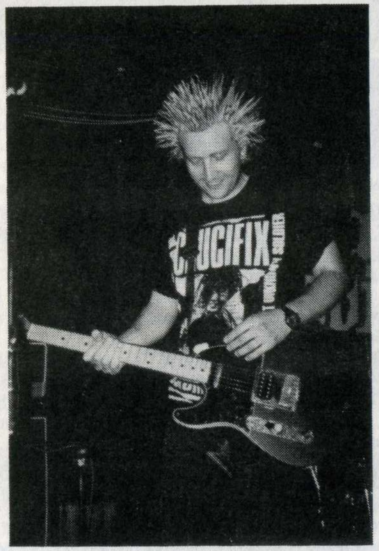
P: Weston-Super-Mare

B: It's full of drunken twats

J: Lads, basically, sit in with them and they'll either try and wind you up, or take the piss, it's just how it is. Sad really. If you haven't got a tie on, you're a wanker, not the same as them like

S: It's only a minority isn't it, that spoil it. Same as in any town. It's a minority that spoil it for everyone else. They get pissed up and there's loads of rugby types...they're worse than anyone else, they get drunk and they're just, like, yobs.

BLIND DESTRUCTION RECORD
BOX 29, 82 COLSTON ST, BRIST
BS1 5BB, UK



***PUNKS TEND TO HAVE A REPUTATION OF GETTING TOTALLY PISSED AND GETTING OUT OF CONTROL AT GIGS, DOES THIS ANNOY YOU?***

B: A small minority

J: Again

B: Same as in any situation. Sometimes it's annoying, sometimes it's funny

P: I suppose It can be annoying if you're being lary, especially if people don't know who you are, you get funny with people and stuff...

B: And if it stops people putting on gigs on at venues as well

P: If people start getting out of order, then it's wrong. There's nothing wrong with getting pissed, having a laugh, but if you can't handle your fucking beer, then don't do it basically.

J: That's right.

***WILL THEY HEAR THE MESSAGE IN THE SONG?***

B: Probably not

***IN HOW MANY PUNK BANDS CAN YOU HEAR THE MESSAGE?***

P: Well, I dunno

B: The people who are going to listen are the ones who can control themselves a bit

CRUCIFIXATION

P: I think a lot of people's lives were changed by things that were said by bands and stuff...

J: But probably written down on a lyric sheet more than hearing it at gigs

P: That's what he means, the message is there

J: Well yeah

***REALLY IT COULD APPLY TO ANY PERSON, BUT WHY SING SONGS ABOUT IT WHEN WE CAN'T CONTROL THE PROBLEMS IN OUR OWN SCENE? (Not sure if I heard this right? - ed)***

P: Well I think that's a slight difference because the problem that we have in our own scene as the saying goes, is you do get people that fall about and stuff, but I mean, what's being sung about I think in the song is that people will judge you and beat the fuck out of you cause you look different, which isn't the case within the punk scene, people won't judge you and beat the fuck out of you cause you look different, whereas like, people do get pissed and that sometimes gets out of hand but it's not quite the same. It's not what the song's about

S: It's not as sinister as that. Not like sort of supposedly normal sort of regular people..

P: And they judge you because you look different, beat the shit out of you. Prejudice, that's what the song's about.

***THE HARDCORE SCENE IN THE UK WAS BIG IN THE MID 80S, IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET THAT ENTHUSIASM BACK ON THE SAME SCALE OR DO YOU THINK PEOPLE ARE FED UP WITH THE THRASH THRASH AARGHHH TYPE THING IS THIS DUE TO POP-PUNK FROM US STYLE HARDCORE BEING POPULAR, MAYBE MORE ACCESSIBLE?***

P: Yeah, it's more accessible, but there again, so is stuff like Suede, and all that, but it doesn't mean it's particularly saying anything, does it? I mean, look at Napalm Death, they were popular, and all it is is bash bash aarrgghh innit. That's more down to how it's sold innit, how it's advertised, brought over

S: Marketing..

P: Yeah marketing that's the word i'm looking for, so I mean, if you want to get into the whole fucking rocknroll circus of it all, then i'm sure any band can get really big, look at Blur and Oasis for fucks sake
J: I think a lot of the scene getting more popular in the 80's was down to the fact that John Peel played a lot of that kind of music, a lot more than he does now
P: And also NME and all that used to do that Britcore thing
J: Sounds used to cover punk more than the other two did
P: Also it was the tail end of the whole 82/83 thing, that there was a massive punk explosion anyway, underground punk scene, I mean, it can get popular again, you've just got to have a few good bands about, that's what anything grows on, a lot of bands about. It's all very well having fucking tons of bands, but if they sound like fuckin' shit you're not going to get anywhere are you
J: That's right, you've got to start trying to encourage people to get back into it by having some decent bands to go and see
P: Yep
J: Hopefully we'll be one of them!
P: I doubt it, not with me playing guitar!
B: There's something we've been meaning to tell you Pete!
P: Alright, see ya later, Bye!
B: I'll get your coat!

### *IS BLIND DESTRUCTION RECORDS YOUR OWN SELF-FINANCED LABEL?*

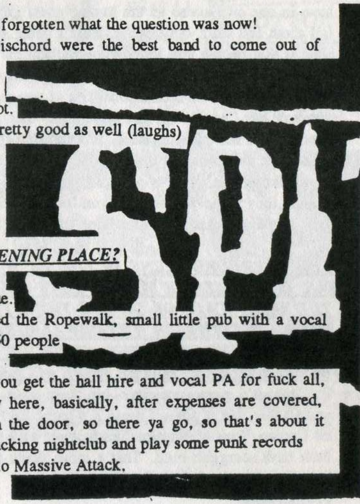
P: It's MY self financed label, basically I was working as a plumber, saved up a bit of money, jacked in my job, put the single out ourselves, cause, well, no-one else said they wanted to do anything, so I just thought it would be a good idea to start a label and basically I wouldn't mind putting out other bands, i've already asked the Restarts and see if they wanna do a single. Basically yeah, it's just me doing the record label.

### *BRISTOL SEEMS TO HAVE SOME GOOD LABELS AND BANDS, IS IT A HAPPENING PLACE? ARE CHAOS UK STILL THE BEST BAND TO COME OUT OF BRISTOL, OR WAS IT DISORDER, OR MASSIVE ATTACK?*

P: None of them.
B: Yes.
S: I dunno, who's the best band?
J: Vice Squad I reckon
P: Vice Squad, Amebix
B: Amebix, certainly not Chaos UK!!
P: Well I reckon....
J: Amebix weren't from Bristol were they?
P: Well, they were from Tavistock originally, but they moved up to Bristol and it was only Chris and Rob who were from Tavistock, anyone else who played for them..but there again, Spider, he was from Bath, so..
B: Scrap that bit....I've forgotten what the question was now!
P: I reckon Chaotic Dischord were the best band to come out of Bristol.
J: Yeah definitely
B: Yeah, without a doubt.
J: Court Martial were pretty good as well (laughs)
B: Cortinas
J: Cortinas, yeah
P: Cabbages!
J: Ford Escorts!

### *IS BRISTOL A HAPPENING PLACE?*

P: No not really
B: Only one small venue.
P: A small venue called the Ropewalk, small little pub with a vocal PA, holds about 100-150 people
B: Good atmosphere
P: Good atmosphere, you get the hall hire and vocal PA for fuck all, so any bands that play here, basically, after expenses are covered, they get the money on the door, so there ya go, so that's about it really. I DJ at a crap fucking nightclub and play some punk records
J: Not unless you're into Massive Attack.



P: Yeah, rave fucking scene
J: Portishead and all that, kinda Bristol sound, like, there's not a lot else going on really

### *DOES IT MAKE THE BAND LAUGH WITH SILLY MONEY BEING ASKED FOR RIPCORD RECORDS NOW?*

S: I didn't really know that there was that money being asked for them
J: No, I didn't
P: That's cause the ones you've been giving me i've been telling you i've been selling them for a quid down the second hand shop, i've been getting £30 a piece for them (laughs)
S: I have heard rumours in America and places like that, the first flexi we had, was sold in some record shop for $50, when it only cost 50p, I thought that..more fool the person that fucking shells out $50 for it if you ask me
B: Yep.
S: But y'know
P: Spite singles are changing hands for about £60 now
S: Yeah?
P: That's wholesale!
S: I don't know really, it's sort of out of our hands, if people buy them and then they sell them on, there's not a lot we can do about it, if some silly sod wants to pay ridiculous money, it's up to them.

### *ARE ANY OF YOU INTO COLLECTING RECORDS AND TELL US WHAT'S YOUR PRIZED ULTRA RARE RECORD THAT YOU WOULDN'T PART WITH FOR ANYTHING?*

B: No i'm not. I own about 10 records.
P: My rarest most prized one is that Finnish one I just got that Propaganda Hardcore 83 on green vinyl
J: Is it? How rare's that then?
P: Well I ain't seen it before
J: Well it's from Finland innit (laughs)
P: That's why
J:I got some rare singles... but they're not... my favourites, so if someone offered me some money for them, i'd flog them, it's like that Big Black Headache 12" I got, black vinyl Steve and that, i'd get rid of that, and First Draw latest single, grey vinyl.....
There's loads of stuff out now, regarding the old sort of American hardcore, nearly all of it's been re-issued on CD and stuff, so...

### *WOULD YOU RATHER SEE A SCENE FULL OF SMALL ZINES OR A NATIONAL UK ZINE LIKE MRR COMING OUT?*

J: It's good to see both isn't it really
B: Yeah, a nice sprinkling of both...
P: Thing is, I suppose cause, well America's got it as well, they've got loads of small zines and they've got national zines. The good thing about national zines is, especially when they've got a good distribution, so you know you can get it once a month, basically is, you're gonna get people who get into punk more, cause they know something is there, that's going to have news and stuff on a regular basis. MRR is pretty pancy really, it's a good idea and all that, but it's just like any fucker who forms a band, you can be in a band 10 minutes and send an interview, and they'll print it, it's like...
B: Which we shall be doing shortly!
P: Yeah. Profane Existence I reckon is better, and Punk Planet, and Heart Attack I reckon are better
J: It'd be good to have a MRR type...
P: You mean, Punk Lives..
J: Well no, you know what I mean, summat in this country that gets exposure in a lot of record shops, whereas small fanzines, your average fanzine seller sells them at gigs, so it means that more people will get into the music by buying that, cause they're not going to be at the gigs are they..
B: Yeah, it might encourage them to go to some
J: It's an inlet into the scene for them, rather than just like all the little ones, it's good to have both.

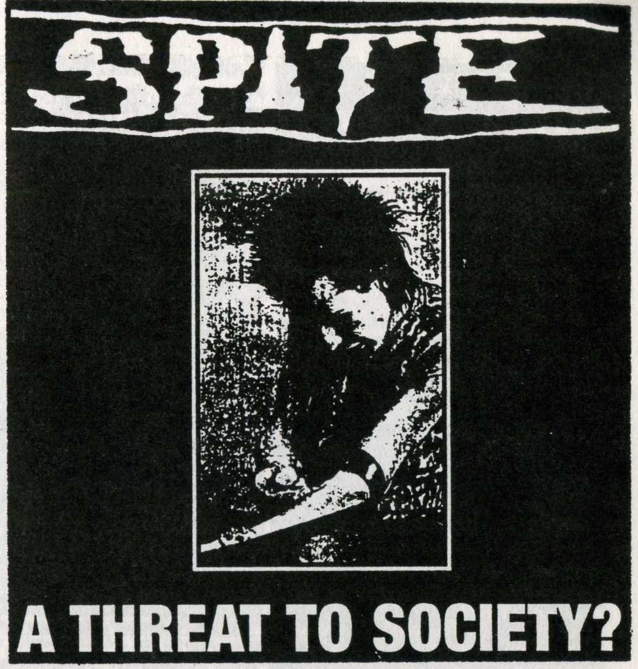
### *HAVE ANY OF YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN A ZINE OR ANYTHING?*

B: I did some typing for Xerox Machine once, but only one issue came out.
J: Wasn't that some sort of tribute fanzine?
B: No, definitely, it wasn't, it had a Poison Idea interview in it

### *FAVOURITE ZINES?*

P: I like that Aversion, and Riot..
B:Yeah. Artcore
P: Yeah Artcore, You're So Hideous
B: Problem Child
P: Yeah, Problem Child. Grovel grovel! Lick lick!
J: I've got a few of his early ones
B: Yeah I have
J: With a Ripcord interview in it, and Extreme Noise and all that stuff And Chaos UK, back when they were trying to play really fast and it was trendy
B: Now they're doing pub rock cause they think that's trendy

### *IS THE PUNK REVIVAL OF OLD BANDS GOING TO HELP BANDS LIKE YOURSELVES GET NOTICED? WILL YOU BE SEEING THE SEX PISTOLS?*



S: I reckon it definitely is, y'know, especially with bands like Special Duties...and (dunno what was said here - ed) (laughs)
P: It'll do wonders for us, cause it'll make us look good!
It's a bit sad in a way, cause really there's a lot of bands that I saw in the early 80s that reformed, and they've shattered my illusions, seeing a load of fat cunts on the stage
B: It doesn't even look as though their hearts are in it
P: I'm sure some of them are, but why didn't they carry on going the first time around?
B: Just keep going. No we won't be seeing the Sex Pistols
P; No we won't be seeing the Sex Pistols, fucking tossers. Punk moved on from that years ago. It's just fucking sad.

### *IF THE COUNTRY COULD VOTE ON NATIONAL POLICIES/LAWS, THROUGH USING A MACHINE JUST LIKE THE NATIONAL LOTTERY WOULD YOU USE YOUR VOTE? WOULD IT BE A GOOD IDEA?*

P: No, because they'll just use it, manipulate it in a way - they'll only ask questions they want asked, they won't ask questions that really need to be asked, so therefore they'll be totally sidestepping things that matter. Basically, I dunno if that sounds right, but basically, what they've always done is watered things down, when there's an issue that needs to be discussed or answered, they'll water it down into something so that they'll ask the question in the way that they want it to be asked, they'll manipulate it, and if they had that sort of thing, you'd have to answer the question in the way that they want it answered, cause they've worded it in that way, if it was put in a straightforward way, like, radical ideas and that won't even be discussed, it's out of the window, it's just your status quo sort of thing. It'd be a fucking waste of time
S: I'd do it if it was done on a scratch card basis! (laughs)

### *CHEERS*

All: And cheers to you!
S: Thank you very much Paul.

## LAST ORDERS E.P.

BLIND DESTRUCTION RECORDS
BOX 29, 82 COLSTON ST
BRISTOL, BS1 5BB
UK

# MUSIC? REVIEWS

### MUT Demo

Not sure if this demo has a title, but this is good stuff from a new Leeds band. Phoenix record label has an EP out soon by these, probably by the time you read this. MUT play sludgy, but still way tuneful older style (early 80's) punk rock, with plenty of choruses and reminders of how it used to be!! The EP should be good!

PHOENIX RECORDS / 24 WOODVILLE ROAD / NEW BARNET / HERTS / EN5 5HA.

### CHEAPSKATE Social Welfare Demo

It says Social Welfare on the cover, but i'm not totally sure that's the title of the tape, anyhow, this is a band from the Republic of Ireland, and includes the people/person (?) who do Reaction distro (thanks for distroing my zine by the way!!), it's hard to classify Cheapskate, they're very raw sounding, but melodic too, almost driving postcore sort of punk noise. Make sense? Not to me either !! It will be interesting to see how they develop once they get a better production, but I quite enjoyed this... Wanting gigs in the UK too.....

PADRAIC / 2 ASHFIELD PARK / TERENURE / DUBLIN 6W / REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.

### BURNSIDE 7"EP

Burnside have formed out of the ashes of Deadence Within, Burnside have been going over a year now amazingly...but so far they've not released too much or gigged too much, but that should change soon, and if you get the chance to see them live, then go for it - they're brilliant live!! This EP will be a corker too - Rid's vocals remain unchanged from the DW days, but the music is less metal influenced, and more straight ahead fast melodic hardcore...Gorilla Biscuits and RKL have emerged as influences....really tight and energetic stuff here that's every bit as good as all those US bands.....

RID / 7 COURT ROAD / STRENSHAM / WORCS / WR8 9LP.

### V/A Chickenpox, Home Grown, Liberator CD

This is another of those CD sampler things, this one from Burning Heart, so I presume all three bands are from Sweden. It clocks up 20 minutes, with two tracks from each of the bands, from their full length CDs. Liberator kick it off with some ska, Specials/Selecter kinda stuff, Home Grown are NOFX style, and Chickenpox finish it off with a couple of ska tracks, sounding a little like Madness. This is only in limited supply, so presumably you're meant to buy the albums???? Not bad but not brilliant.

(BURNING HEART RECORDS)

### RAWSIDE Vorkriegsjugend CD

This is a single, available I think both as a 7" and on CD. Rawside are a crusty UK influenced German band, whose last album Police Terror was reviewed last issue. The title of this EP is the name of an old Berlin band that this EP is a tribute to. I have to admit i'd never heard of them, but anyway, Rawside do cover versions of four of their tracks, and also submit here a new track of their own. Good aggressive crust here - I like the Vorkriegsjugend tracks, but I still think the best track is the new one that's their own.....(WE BITE RECORDS)

### BLOODLET Entheogen CD

Bloodlet are a new band to me, and are from Orlando, Florida, the promo describes them as a "unique blend of hardcore/metal fused with jazz and classical arrangements" - well to me it sounds like typical metal/hardcore crossover - relentlessly (ie tedious) pounding drums, growled vocals and metal guitar rhythms, mostly slow and uninteresting to my ears, I don't like it at all....

(VICTORY RECORDS, EUROPE)

### SWEET BABY/BRENTS TV Hello Again split CD

Oh no!! This is terrible! Bloodlet were better than this!! This is from Lookout Records, not a label I've got releases of, and if this is what they're up to now, I don't want to! And they let TILT! go after their first album !! This is 60's garage punk (for want of a better word), the sort of thing that seems to get good coverage in MRR. this doesn't really sound punk at all to me though, just sounds like an American 10th rate Beatles sort of band. And I can't really tell Sweet Baby and Brents TV apart ! I can't bear listening to this even as background music, it's just so nauseating......(LOOKOUT RECORDS)

### V/A ..E foi concedido ao homem o raciocino e o livre arbitrio....LP

Which translates as "..and it was granted to man, the reasoning and the free arbitrament..", something is lost though through the translation I think. Anyhow, this is a good Brazilian comp LP. Starts off with the worst band on here, NYAB (New York Against The Belzebu), who play 1000 mph stuff that sounds rather shitty, but after that it hits the spot with three new tracks from ACAO DIRETA (interviewed last issue). These are three classy tracks, you can tell they've been together a few years, and their new album should be out by the time this gets finished. Raging intense but still tuneful hardcore punk. The other bands are good too, they are NITROMINDS, F.D.S (Fora De Si), D.Z.K (Dizikilibriu Social) and AGROTOXICO. If you like Colera or Brazilian HC in general, pick this up.

ROTTENNESS RECORDS / NELSON AUGUSTO DOS SANTOS / CAIXA POSTAL 1197 / AG. CENTRAL / 01059-970 / SAO PAULO / SP / BRAZIL.

### ULTRA ORANGE Ride 7"

Two tracks here from this band from Regensburg, the same place the label this is on is based. What you get is some fairly melodic basic punk, slightly emo sounding, especially with the girl singers dreamy singing. Good if rather short. No lyrics printed.

SCUM DISTRO / SILBERNE FISCHGASSE 16 / 93047 REGENSBURG / GERMANY

### PETE AND THE TEST TUBE BABIES Schwein Lake Live CD

60 full minutes of live old school punk from these UK veterans, recorded in Germany. Eighteen tracks, excellent sound, fans will love it. But with titles like Student Wanker, Vicars Wank Too etc, I find it a bit difficult to take the band seriously...

(WE BITE RECORDS)

### THE PATH OF RESISTANCE Who Dares...Wins CD

Now this band ARE serious! The band consists of 80% of the line up of EARTH CRISIS. How this compares to Earth Crisis I don't know, cause I ain't never heard them, but this is aggressive metallic hardcore, in the vein that I expected Earth Crisis to be if I did hear them. I can see now the sort of stuff that influences the UK's own Stampin' Ground...This is pretty good too. Lyrically, they promote their fanatical devotion to straight edge. (VICTORY RECORDS)

### BY THE GRACE OF GOD For The Love Of Indie Rock CD

More from Victory Records, this is a band consisting of members of Guilt, Endpoint, Enkindle, Falling Forward, and Empathy. According to the promo, their sole intention is to bring back fun and belief into the hardcore scene as so many bands within the scene seek mainstream viability through adding indie and college rock influences. The cover artwork with a big $ sign and the album title are pure provocation. Lyrically, this band are straightedge too, though seemingly less militant than Path Of Resistance. Each of the band members writes a short essay in the lyric booklet, which was interesting, mainly about straight edge, and getting the hardcore punk scene back to how it used to be. Musically, aggressive hardcore, a tad more tuneful and less metally than Path of Resistance, but along similar lines. Like it.

(VICTORY RECORDS)

### PORTOBELLO BONES CD

This is the band from France that toured here in May '96, unfortunately I didn't catch them, although by all accounts they were good, so this is my first experience of them.This album is a tribute to the women who have written lyrics for this album (all of them from the US), thoughts from women in a male dominated world even at the end of the 20th century. A good concept. Musically, this is pretty uncompromising, it's emo and melodic in places, but brutal and raging too. I still need a few more plays of this to get into it, some of it's drawn out and I find my attention wandering in some songs, but overall it's good and original hardcore.

LIONEL FAHY / 3 RUE MIRABEAU / 37700 ST PIERRE DES CORPS / FRANCE.

### EXCRETED ALIVE / BLUDGE Split tape

Here's a tape for all you grind freaks out there!! Exreted Alive are from Spain, and this is their first demo (I think), pretty punked up grind with screamed vocals, sounds punk rather than metally, possibly cause of it's under-production, makes it sound thin in places.... Bludge are a two piece band from Sweden, and they play the same sort of stuff. In fact I had difficulty telling the bands apart, especially as you cannot make out the screamed words !!! A lot of their songs are untitled, so I assume these lot are pretty new. They include a couple of Agathocles covers.

P.D.P RECORDS / LUIS M. PEREZ / SAMANIEGO 18 8B / 41008 SEVILLA / SPAIN.

### GULAG Stand On Your Feet CD

Here's a band that I didn't expect to hear from again, I thought they'd split up some time ago, but I think they just had lineup problems due to civil service etc. Old issues of RT had reviews of this Greek band and I did an interview with them too. This CD sees some progression from earlier work, a bit more rock and funky influences against their tuneful hardcore with obvious Greek sound background. At first, I didn't like the diverse tracks, but they're growing on me. Anyhow, Gulag were always a bit weird anyway, with their strange rhythms and haunting vocals. The first eight tracks are new, then there's three older tracks as a bonus to compare with what they sound like now. I'm getting back into this after a long break....!!

LAZY DOG RECORDS / SOCRATOUS 4 / 54635 THESSALONIKI / GREECE.

GULAG / ALEX KANTARTZIS / DIM GOUNARI 52 / 54635 THESSALONIKI / GREECE.

### APOCALYPSE BABYS Whoops...LP/CD

New album from the Babys - if you liked their last album and the 7", then you'll like this - more of the same really. Late 70s punk in the vein of The Clash, Pistols, Ramones etc, the style that I normally find a bit throwaway and lacking in interest, but I do like the Apocalypse Babys. There's one or two more rock'n'roll sounding numbers, I hope it's not a sign of things to come, as they sounded just like album fillers or something, totally throwaway. When they stick to the 77 stuff, it's ace!! Good lyrics too...

(SMOKIN' TROLL RECORDS)

### KAAOS Valtio Tuhoaa...7"EP

New release from Fight records in Finland, the label which has released stuff by Kuolleet Kukat which i've mentioned in previous issues, this is a recording by Finnish legends Kaaos. These are unreleased recordings, known as the Ulvila Sessions, recorded in 1983, although a couple of the songs also appeared on their classic LP. Although this isn't quite up to the standard of the LP, this is pretty good raging hardcore punk, from the band that gave many Finnish bands over the years their influences, so if you like any raw and fast Finnish HC punk bands, definitely check this out!!

FIGHT RECORDS / TURTOLANMAENKATU 6 D 31 / 33710 TAMPERE / FINLAND.

### ALLEGIANCE TO NONE/MASTURBATION split 7"EP

New release from the label that gave us Mickey & The Big Mouths, reviewed last issue. Allegiance To None are a six-piece band from California, they play pretty raging hardcore punk, really loud as you'd expect with 2 guitarists and two screaming vocalists, some fast simple thrash punk, but also a fair bit of slowed down heavier but still angry and intense hardcore punk. Two tracks, and I liked them. Masturbation - well I guess the name says a lot! One of those drunk style bands - songs about drinking, straight edge and masturbation. Definitely anti-PC, although in their comments, they say the lyrics are tongue in cheek. Musically simple, raucus type of punk. Preferred the other side really.

LAID OFF RECORDS / P O BOX 82684 / PORTLAND / OR 97282 / USA.

### SANITY ASSASSINS Martian Beach 7"

The latest Sanity Assassins 7", this is a shortish 2 tracker, the B-side being Hot Fot. These songs are rather old I think, and it sees Sanity Assassins veering into their rock / psyche / experimental style which they tend to sometimes, personally I prefer their punker stuff, ie their album, and the split tape with English Dogs which I released a while back,,,,I found the stuff on this 7' rather annoying.. No lyrics included.

DAGGER RECORDS/SANITY ASSASSINS / P O BOX 380152 / EAST HARTFORD / CT 06138-0152 / USA.

### NIGHT IN GALES Sylphlike CD

This is a 20 minute demo CD of a band from Germany. They describe themselves as fast melodic death metal, full of aggression !! That about sums it up really, not my thing, and I thought it was rather awful.

TOBIAS BRUCHMANN / LOHMANNSKATH 29 / 46562 VOERDE / GERMANY.

### WHO MOVED THE GROUND? If Pleasure Was Illegal CDs

I reviewed WMTG? in a previous issue, their 7" called The Chase. I've not really kept up with them since, so i'm not sure if this is their first release since then or not, but this one's put out by the label formed by the people of Riot/Clone, the label amazingly is called Riot/Clone Records. Anyway, on this CDs, you get a couple of 77 sort of numbers, Clash influenced i'd say - done pretty well, although a little too mainstream for my liking. The sort of stuff Apocalypse Babys and Erase Today would like I reckon. There's also a couple of bouncy ska numbers, and the fifth track is a longer version of the first track (the title track) which seems a bit of a waste of time...There's no lyrics printed with this, but there is a page of fanzine addresses, including yours truly. (Cheers!).

RIOT/CLONE RECORDS / P O BOX 2795 / LONDON / NW10 9AY

### COWSILL CUTT Bucky 7"

This features the bass player and drummer from Sanity Assassins - similar to Sanity Assassins' punkier stuff, although Cowsill Cutt are a tad poppier, whilst still sounding powerful. Good tuneful punk, although there's rather a lot of scratching on my copy of the vinyl.

SANITY ASSASSINS as above OR:
RATFISH / P O 381869 / CAMBRIDGE / MA 02238 / USA.

### VIC VACUME AND THE ATTACHMENTS Acid Pot and Beer 7"

The return of another band whose stuff i've reviewed in previous issues, more drunk retarded punk from Illinois USA, the same area as Urbn DK I think, as they're listed in the thank you's. As you might guess from the title, no political songs here - topics are drugs, beer and the toilet!! Musically, it's tuneful but hard, no frills punk with a heavy edge here and there.

### VIC VACUME AND THE ATTACHMENTS/ THE OIUJA BOREDS split 7"EP

Two more retarded tracks from VVA - they look like nutters too!! I'm sure they were raised on GG Allin....

The Oiuja Boreds are also from Illinois, and play rather good tuneful punk.Dunno what their lyrics are about, but their two tracks are called Sister Mary Bulldog, and Neck.

SEMPRINI RECORDS / P O BOX 72673 / ROSELLE / IL 60172 / USA. (both EPs)

### RED FLAG 77 Demo

I got this to review from Paul Problem Child zine, as he's stopped doing his zine now, and it came in the post around the same time as Real Overdose #10, with the interview of this band. Before that i'd not heard them or known anything about them, but this tape is pretty impressive. 77 style punk as you'd expect by the name, but they're a bit chunkier and less clean sounding than bands like Apocalypse Babys or Who Moved The Ground? which makes this refreshing and interesting. In fact to me, it sound more like early 80s street punk rather than 70s. Anyhow, labels aside, this is a damn good listen. They have an EP out now on Weird Records, a split with PMT, i've not heard it, but I plan to check it out!!

RICK / 116 VERNON STREET / IPSWICH / SUFFOLK.

### J.P.E What's Wrong With My Foot Demo

Also got this from Problem Child for review, i'd never heard of J.P.E before, but they're from Northamptonshire, and play older style punk, snappy and simple sort of stuff, reasonably tuneful. The demo is a bit scrappy sounding, but on the B side is 8 new tracks they've recorded, musically these are better, a lot tighter sounding, although I'm still not too keen on the vocals. The lyrics vary a bit too. I just found my interest in this wavering a bit....but they're ever - improving.

BOB / 43 LYVEDEN ROAD / BRIGSTOCK / KETTERING / NORTHANTS / NN14 3HE.

### MANIAC SQUAT Stalehouse Rock Demo

More stuff from Paul of Problem Child, well I didn't know much about this band until Paul wrote, but by now, you'll have read the interview in here and know a little more!! This isn't really a demo, but a live recording released as a cassette LP sort of thing by Dragnet in Wales, who seem to specialise in this sort of thing, having also released cass LPs by Decadence Within, MDM and Couch Potatoes amongst others. This gig os recorded in Sudbury, Suffolk, which I guess must be the area they're from ??? Sound quality is pretty OK for a gig, the band play noisy but tuneful old style punk, pretty good it is too, alhtough a little sloppy in places. I think they have some studio stuff out soon... Songs titles include Sun Reader, Fuck Off, Aaarrgh!, and there's a cover of My Generation.

DRAGNET / 39 LUGG VIEW / PRESTEIGNE / POWYS / LD8 2DE.

### ASTREAM Woodfish CD

You may remember I reviewed Astream in a previous issue, this is their debut full length album (CD only) from this Swedish band, still on Bad Taste Records. Excellent it is too. As with most of the Swedish bands, tight energetic NOFX style hardcore. Nothing really that different here, but there's some excellent innovative music and some good lyrics too. In fact, as in a lot of the Swedish bands, I think they're better than a lot of the US bands playing the same style (there's some great US bands, but there's some very average ones too...). Lyrically, considering English isn't their first language, they're very detailed, some are personal, others more direct, about armchair politicans, not giving a fuck about Kurt Cobain, an anti rascism song, and one about girls wanting to be Miss Universe, a nice change in this song where the female guitar player sings (she should do that more often!!) I like this !!! BAD TASTE RECORDS, UK distro by Plastic Head.

### THE FREEZE / THE BOLLWEEVILS A Deadly Duo CD

More excellent stuff from Dr Strange Records!! The Freeze kick it off with 4 new tracks, which are arguably their best ever. Older school

American punk, ie energetic, aggressive simple fast punk with loadsa melodies too, and to have all the tracks in the wrong order to make the tracklisting irrelevent is a work of genius !!!! The Bollweevils have also been going a good while, but this is my first taste of them. They kick in with an ace melodic track called Kieth, old school ish, similar to the Freeze, but a bit lighter, more melodic. Ace tunes at a good pace. They finish off with their version of The Freeze's Trouble If You Hide. Personal type lyrics from both bands. This is available as a CD or 10" vinyl. Get this!!!!

(Dr Strange, UK distro by Plastic Head)

### GAME FACE Three To Get Ready CD

I'm not sure if this is a CD only release, I think usually Dr Strange releases are vinyl too? I'm not sure with this one. Game Face is the Californian band that toured Europe this year with a Czech band (sorry, can't remember their name), which was good to see, except that I didn't, sadly I missed them. Game Face play excellent melodic emo-ish hardcore. They strike me as a cross between Jawbreaker and Big Drill Car. 40 minutes in total and I love it!! (DR STRANGE RECORDS, Euro distro by Plastic Head).

### MAN DINGO Macho Grande CD

More excellent stuff from Dr Strange Records, this one is available both as vinyl and CD. Man Dingo are from Arizona, and they play really good, aggressive but tuneful hardcore, really brash and in your face, with sung vocals and melodic guitar licks. In short, they sound very like Rhythm Collision, which is no bad thing in my book. Get this !!

DR STRANGE as above.

### BUCK WILD Beat Me Silly CD

This is a side project of memeber out of Lagwagon, namely their two guitarists. I'm not that keen on Lagwagon these days, and I thought they weren't that hot when they toured, but i'm even less keen on Buck Wild. They have the familiar guitar sound of Lagwagon, but in general this band are poppier and more tame, in fact I found them to be really bland, they even cover the song Happy Together which sums it up really..

LOBSTER RECORDS, distro by Plastic Head

### 108 Threefold Misery CD

This US band have already released a few albums, but this is the first time i've heard them. They boast ex-members of Inside Out, Release, and Resurrection. This is intense and heavy US hardcore, punker sounding than Neurosis, but heavier and moodier than perhaps Earth Crisis and such bands. It's certainly pretty intense, although I must admit I prefer noisy bands who are a bit more direct. Lyrically, they cover the Hare Krishna faith...(LOST & FOUND RECORDS, distro by Plastic Head).

### HEADS APART Feisty CD

This is a CD only self financed release by this Peterborough band, and it's distributed by Cargo. There's no vinyl version, but mine was on tape, so I dunno if it's for sale in that format?? Anyway, this band boasts two of the ex-guitarists from English Dogs, the era when they reformed. This shows in the guitar work of Heads Apart, and while English Dogs have gone punkier since those days, Heads Apart stay in the metal/punk fusion that the Dogs sounded like when they reformed. Good chunky clean sounding tunes with loads of power and plenty of variations, some fast some slower, a few too many solos in places, but overall it's pretty good. If you're into English Dogs style and don't mind a bit of metal, then go for this...

PECKERHEAD DISTRO / 46 VERE ROAD /
PETERBOROUGH / PE1 3EA.

### V/A Sabotage At The Square tape

More good stuff from Kollusion. This is a live tape of bands recorded at this Harlow venue around '95/'96. All good sound quality, bands include: English Dogs, The Damned, Spithead, Burnside, Wat Tyler, Snuff, Citizen Fish, Bender, Ex-Cathedra and a few others, inckuding the Kollusion bands whose other releases i've reviewed lately.

KOLLUSION / P O BOX 2717 / HARLOW /
ESSEX / CM18 6BQ.

### JFA / JACK KILLED JILL split 7"

New from New Red Archives, this seems a bit of a low key release, a side project perhaps, as there's not really a lot gone into the cover, it's like one of those chart singles (before they were all CD's!) with little packaging, no inner sleeve/lyrics, and only two songs. Anyway, the most striking thing about this is the front cover with a guy (presumably one of the members of Jack Killed Jill) with his dick out ! Musically, JFA didn't impress me much, sort of old melodic, simple punky stuff which sounded a bit gothhy to me. Jack killed Jill are pretty good. Powerful and tuneful punk/HC with a female singer, they sound a little like some of the other famale bands on NRA...

NRA / P O BOX 210501 / SAN FRANSISCO /
CA 94121 / USA.

### KICKBACK A Sample of What's To Come Demo

A brand new demo from this Midlands band, excellent stuff too. Eight new tracks. I reviewed their last demo before, and described them as being in the Agnostic Front vein, and apparently other zines have done the same, although Dave from the band doesn't think they sound like AF. I'd say it's still a good reference point, especially in the vocals, but the music's less aggressive and less NY sounding than AF. Kickback's music reminds me more of European bands, possibly Brazilian bands too - ie. chunky powerful but tuneful riffing at a nifty pace, a good mix of aggression and tunes. I'd like to see these live prtetty soon.....

24 ROSEWOOD AVENUE / RUGBY /
WARWICKSHIRE / CV22 5PJ.

### STAMPIN' GROUND CD

This is the first release since SG signed to We Bite Records in Germany, and this is their two 7" records that were released by Too Damn Hype and Days of Fury Records. There are no bonus tracks here, so this is designed it seems purely for the European market and for those who never had the chance to check out the excellent 7" records. Brutal UK hardcore with attitude. Heavy hardcore in the Earth Crisis vein. They should hopefully have a "proper" new release, a full length on We Bite pretty soon..... WE BITE, UK distro by Plastic Head

### SPITE A Threat To Society? 7"EP

More excellent raging hardcore from Spite, the comparison with Ripcord is inevitable really, but that's no bad thing, there's not many bands playing this sort of stuff these days. Brutal and fast raging stuff, angry vocally and lyrically too! Tracks are:Unrepentant (So Unresolved), Don't Bother Me, Junkies.... (the sort of title track this one), and The Yes Man. See interview for more info.....

### THREE O'CLOCK HEROES Songs And Nails CD

This is a German band who i'd not heard of before, although they've been going since 1990 and this is their third full length album. The first two were self-produced, this new one is on We Bite. They play singalong punk rock, English influenced, and sounding similar to those singalong punk bands in Germany in the 80's. They're pretty good at what they do, although it's not really my thing. Fairly good serious lyrics, and good value with 13 tracks here clocking up 50 minutes.

WE BITE, UK distro by Plastic Head

### SWINGIN' UTTERS A Juvenile Product of the Working Class CD

Latest release from Fat Wreck, a US band that's toured with Rancid and plans tours with The Queers and Offspring, so they're probably building up a good fan base. They're trying to play UK oi/old punk sort of stuff, but still sounds pretty American. Really bland music and the vocals annoyed me, and considering they're trying to play unabitious tunes, no tunes really stuck in my mind from this album. Rather average and forgettable and probably the worst release i've heard from Fat Wreck. (FAT WRECK CHORDS, Euro distro by Destiny).

### GBH Punk Junkies CD

I shouldn't think GBH need any introduction ! How many years they been going now? Their latest album for Germany's We Bite has them going back to their roots according to the promo after delving into speedcore/metalcore in the late 80's. This reminds me a lot of the English Dogs, how the music's going back to punk roots, but still with some good metal touches. Good serious music, but I bet it's still the old songs that get requested at gigs!! Lyrics are good too, covering general topics, like AIDS, and the Justice system, and Shakin Hands With The Machine, which is about selling out to major labels. Good aggressive punk with a bit of a metal crossover.

WE BITE, UK distro by Plastic Head.

### JUMPIN LAND MINES Kurt-On-Call 7"

More good stuff from this north west band, this being released on a label in Nevada, US. Two tracks, the first one having been on one of the demos reviewed in previous issues of RT. JLM have also released a 12" EP I think....Melodic but powerful punk rock in the vein of Apocalypse Babys and the like. The only drawback of this record is the very scatchy sound of the vinyl (not the recording!). Otherwise i'd recommend you to check out JLM.

JLM / 82 ASHTON ROAD / GOLBORNE /
WARRINGTON / CHESHIRE / WA3 3UR.
FAMILYMAN RECORDS / 4007 LINDSEY
CIRCLE / LINCOLN / NE 68524-1030 / USA.

### REQUIEM LAUS For The Ones Who Died Demo

This is doom/death metal from the island of Medeira, Portugal. It's mostly slowish with growled vocals and lots of intros and guitar solos. Probably pretty good if you're into this style of metal, but it's wasted on me i'm afraid !

MIGUEL FREITAS / CALCADA DO PICO
104 / 9000 FUNCHAL / MADEIRA /
PORTUGAL.

### THE GLORY STRUMMERS E.S.D CDs

A four track CDsingle, clocking up 11 minutes. Starts off with the title track, which is about drugs, lyrics printed on the cover as a newspaper layout, catchy 77style punk, I liked this track. The other three tracks didn't really do anything for me, rather forgettable, especially the cover of A New England by Billy Bragg. No lyrics printed apart from the title track.

RIOT/CLONE RECORDS / P O BOX 2795 /
LONDON / NW10 9AY.

### FACEACHE Your Only Friend Demo

The second demo from this Lincolnshire band whose first demo was reviewed in RT#11. Savage hate-core kind of stuff, an improvement in the production dept this time, but I think the production could've been better still, this raging band needs a fuller and powerful sound. Anyhow, twisted harsh hardcore, and excellent lyrics which cover shopping dole 'cheats' to the DHSS (the title track), apathy and exploitation.

LEE / THE FLAT / SILVER COURT /
SILVER STREET / BOSTON / LINCS / PE21
6JR.

### THE RESTARTS Frustration 7"EP

More good stuff from Spite's label Blind Destruction Records, now starting to release other bands too. The Restarts boast ex and current members of Ciotus and The Varukers. This is raging punk as fuck stuff, not totally extreme, a hint of tunfeulness in the guitars, manic dual screamed speed-vocals, that pummell out the words quicker than you can read them on the lyric sheet, espeically on the track "Frustration" - "Frustration alienation my frustration fuckin with a no win situation". Great stuff. The other tracks cover substance abuse, the Lottery, and work. The fold out insert includes lyrics plus a cartoon.

BLIND DESTRUCTION RECORDS / BOX 29
/ 82 COLSTON STREET / BRISTOL / BS1
5BB.

### WOLFPACK A New Dawn Fades CD

More good stuff from Sweden's Wolfpack, whose last CDEP was reviewed last issue, two of the four track on there are on here too. Heavy Dis sound, but the odd track or two breaks the mould. Some tuneful bits amongst the ragers! One of the best bands in this genre..

DISTORTION / BOX 129 / 401 22
GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN.

### RIOT/CLONE Still No Government Like No Government CD

This is what CD's should be about - a monster package here for only £8 ppd - you get a 32 track 70 minute CD, plus a 142 page booklet !!!!! Riot/Clone have reformed, and re-recorded a large portion of tracks of all their releases, and the booklet says that this recording is as good of not better than the original recordings, and altho' I only heard one or two tracks of this band when they were around before, this does sound pretty impressive, and good recording. Anarcho punk in the early 80s vein as you'd expect, with tracks from 1979 up until the present day (a couple of new tracks). The booklet is really inspirational, first off there's a commentary on how this release came together and why, and thoughts on how it turned out, then there's the lyrics to all 32 tracks (!), then there's some text from Viva!, The Vegan Society, and Greenpeace. Then, taking up over half of the booklet is an essay by Dave the singer/yricist (and he also runs the Riot/Clone label!) explaining each of the lyrics to us in a commentary sort of style that's very well written and Dave's obviously got a lot to say. You should definitely purchase this, even if you have all the Riot/Clone Records already ! £7.50 ppd to

RIOT/CLONE RECORDS / P O BOX 2795 /
LONDON / NW10 9AY.

### URBN DK Human Indifference 7"EP

More raging stuff from Illinois's Urbn DK. I think this is their third EP this year ! And a full-length to come soon! This is probably their best release to date, apart from the slightly scratchy record. 8 tracks of Infest style short, sharp rage, with a couple of slower tracks to break it up. Lyrics about personal frailties and attitudes, and one about sellouts.

POWER GROUND RECORDS / 1309 SOUTH
21 ST / MANITOWOC / WI 54220 / USA.

### BITCHSLAP Illegal Use Of Your Future Demo

Odd name for this band, dunno how that came about.. this band are from WI, USA, Urbn DK and 10-96 sort of country I think, and similar influences in the music, old school fast hardcore punk, in the early MDC vein, similar to Urbn DK but a bit slower and more clean sounding in the music, with throaty vocals. Can't make out much from the lyrics, although Company Man appears to be about sellouts...A short sharp 7 track tape here from Wisconsin.

JOHAN / P O BOX 36 / KENOSHA / WI 53141
/ USA.

### V/A Ultimate Swedish Slash And Burn Volume 2 CD

Ace Swedish comp that features 16 noisy Swedish bands, not all extreme speed noise, some slower stuff, but all pretty raging and raucus nonetheless. Known bands include DRILLER KILLER, LOUD PIPES, FLESHREVELS, MEANWHILE, and SOCIETY GANGRAPE. Other good bands are CINDY KILLS ME, STOPGAP, STOCKHOLM PIGS and UNCURBED. Pick this muther up!!

BURN RECORDS / BOX 96 / 175 22
JARTALLA / SWEDEN.

### ZERO BULL SHIT Life In The USA Demo

This was sent from Paul Problem Child as it was sent for review in his now defunct zine, i'm glad he decided to send me this one, as it's really raging stuff. New York heavy sort of hardcore in an old Sick Of It All vein, but i'm sure there's a few UK crusty influences too. Thudding bass and heavy vocals give this a relentless feel, some of it's fast, a lot is mid-tempo but hard as nails (like the band members by the looks of thing!) Strange thing is, they're from California.....

ZERO BULL SHIT / P O BOX 7692 /
FREMONT / CA 94537-7692 / USA.

### ASSASSINATION BUREAU Previous Convictions Demo

Also got this from Paul PC, not so keen on this though. Sounds like they're just trying to play commercial punk rock, and the fact they're influenced by The Damned, Hanoi Rocks, Lords of The New Church and Johnny Thunders probably says a lot really.

25 LINGWELL ROAD / MIDDLETON /
LEEDS / LS10 4BR.

### THE HI-FIVES It's Up To You 7"

One of a bunch of singles that Lookout seem to have released lately, The Hi-Fives play jangly 60's garage pop-punk that doesn't excite me in the slightest, two short songs that add up to less than five minutes and no insert/lyrics, this seems to like a mainstream 7" or something.. seems a waste of space to me.

LOOKOUT RECORDS / P O BOX 11374 /
BERKELEY / CA 94712 / USA

### SQUIRTGUN Mary Ann 7"

More of the same really, only Squirtgun are perhaps a bit punkier and more upbeat, still too poppy for me though, this one has an insert, but the lyrics aren't really worth saying too much about. This record's a bit longer though with 4 songs on it!!

LOOKOUT RECORDS.

### THE CRUMBS Shakespeare 7"

Another short record here, I suppose it's good that labels like Lookout release 7" vinyl in these days of CD's only, but these records give 7"'s a bad name, again it's only 2 shortish songs, although you do get an insert with lyrics. Musically, old style garagey punk that again does nothing for me...

LOOKOUT RECORDS.

### V/A P.E.A.C.E double CD

Remember this classic compilation from the 80's? Orignally released as a double LP, and featuring such great bands as WRETCHED, CCM, NEGAZIONE, MDC, SUBHUMANS, CRASS, BGK, SHIT S.A., CAUSE FOR ALARM, THE DICKS. DECLINO, PEGGIO PUNX etc etc? Well it's now re-released by We Bite. This is a comp that everyone should hear, and when I got this, I played it all the way through to remind myself of all these bands as i've not played the vinyl for a few years. Strikes me on here that the foreign bands are the best ones, and that a lot of the US bands on this were shit ! Wonder if all the old punks will go for this, or whether the new kids will get into it? Pity We Bite didn't also include the massive and insiring info booklet that came with the 2xLP....

WE BITE, UK distro by PHD

### MDC Smoke Signals CD

Another re-release from We Bite. Wasn't this available as a CD orignally though ? Rather than all these rereleases, i'd like to see more of todays bands get more recognition - having said that though, this was/is a good album from US veterans MDC. And for nostalgia's sake alone. I'd love to see a CD released of WRETCHED's entire discocraphy, much of which orignally was hard to find (esp. the early EPs, I still only have them on tape!!)

WE BITE, UK distro by PHD.

### V/A 200 Proof..Punk CD

Another of these cheap-priced label sampler CD's, this time from Destiny in Germany - a lot of the tracks are already available, the bands are LAGWAGON, YOUTH BRIGADE, NOFX, NO FUN AT ALL, MILLENCOLIN, TERRORGRUPPE, STRUNG OUT, GOOD RIDDANCE, AUTOMATIC 7, RKL, BOUNCING SOULS, NO USE FOR A NAME, SATANIC SURFERS, 59 TIMES THE PAIN, and T DUM & T DUMMER. Read what I said in previous issues to see what I think of these bands - overall a pretty good comp if you like melodic punk and if you've not already heard the bands already.

DESTINY, UK distro by PHD.

**EARTH CRISIS 2 song sampler cassette**
Two tracks from their current album sent out to labels as a freebie from Victory Records. As most of you will know, Earth Crisis are that American militant straight edge band that seem to provoke strong reactions from a lot of folk. either for them or against them. Musically, this does nothing for me, just sounds like metal to me, perhaps a bit more angrier sounding and in your face, but still way too metal for me...
VICTORY RECORDS, UK distro by PHD

**P.A.I.N. Oh My God We're Doing It! Cassette**
This is an album, available in CD or cassette format. Anyhow, when I first saw these were ex-RDF (and AOS3), I wasn't too keen - I always found RDF a bit tedious, but P.A.I.N. are OK. They do the punk/ska/reggae thing, but unlike RDF, there's enough uptempo punkiness here to keep me interested, altho' I have to say I didn't jump around my room or anything like that, it's merely OK, but I guess pretty good if you're into that sort of thing. Shit i'm waffling.... the best thing for me was the politics - direct!!
INNA STATE RECORDS / P O BOX 116 / BRISTOL / BS99 1JL.

**INTENTION Foundation Demo**
A new band from Birmingham, boasting ex-members of Colourblind, Torn and LD50. So with that lineup, you're in for something different, as those bands were pretty different from each other. Also the influences cite various differing bands and styles. The result is a mid-tempo punk malarky that I can't liken to anybody. The buzzing guitaring reminds me of someone, but as always, I can't think what when the time comes.
One track has a Fugazi kind of sound, then it bursts into a really rocking out chorus! Lyrically, they're not printed, so can't comment. Overall this is pretty varied. I suppose to sum it up, you'd say 80's style punk with a bit of metal and other bits thrown in! Yep, interesting and original, which is a plus in my book!
IAN / 50 WOODSTOCK ROAD / MOSELEY / BIRMINGHAM.

**V/A Las Vegas compilation 7"EP**
New release from Bucky Records. Starts off with an awful track from Leap Frog Society, who play a sloppy noisy punk song that sounds like it's recorded in a match box, but the rest of the EP is great. Heroines are next up, fastish punk with a female singer (possibly all-girl band?), then the best track of the EP, by Boba Fett Youth (see last issue where I reviewed their excellent full length LP/CD), a really good upcoming band. Flipping over, we find a track each by Tomorrow's Gone and Catapult. Most the bands are similar to Boba Fett Youth, ie. melodic basic kind of punk with singing, underproduced for punk effect, all pretty competant at it too...
BUCKY RECORDS / P O BOX 72671 / LAS VEGAS / NV 89170 / USA.

**PROPAGANDHI Less Talk, More Rock CD**
More excellent stuff from this Canadian band. Tight melodic hardcore punk with spot-on attitude, no real change from the first album, which is fine by me! Nice to see this band appealing to the wide spectrum of punk fans cause of their music and excellent lyrics too. And there's also essays with this on feminism, nationalism, religion, etc. Pick this up!

FAT WRECK CHORDS, now have a UK office somewhere in London.....

**P.U.S. A Life in Fear 7"EP**
The latest EP from this Wisbech band, released on Know Records in the US, who seem to be doing a lot of good stuff these days. This is the best EP I think by P.U.S. yet, a better production helps their early 80's sound a great deal. Political lyrics all the way with a fold out black and white cover.
KNOW RECORDS / P O BOX 90579 / LONG BEACH/ CA 90809 / USA
P.U.S. / MARSTON HOUSE / MAIN ROAD / ELM / WISBECH / CAMBS / PE14 0AB.

**DISORGANISED Demo**
Wild stuff here from Gothenburg, Sweden. Extreme grinding punk mayhem, mostly fast, a few manic guitar solos, and the odd slower sludgy parts, sloppy production and a mega-distorted guitar sound - sounds like the classic old Swedish EPs from the early 80's. And I like it! Lyrics mainly cover war....
PETER JANDREUS / MORNERSGATAN 7B / 418 75 GOTHENBURG / SWEDEN.

**VITRIOLA s/t Demo**
Interesting tape here from Italy. Sort of post hardcore sounding, loads of power, slower bits and occasionally more uptempo. Driving bass, but just in places a bit too repetitive. No lyrics with the tape, but they sing in English. Pretty original.
ARRIGO CABAI / VIA I MAGGIO 8-A / 33028 TOLMEZZO (VD) / ITALY.

**SOLHVERV Tagernes Artusinde CD**
This is weird doom-metal from Denmark!! Black metal with Danish pagan/viking influences in the music and in the Danish lyrics! Musically, it's mad, loads of awkward rhythms, tempo and time changes galore, the drums are all over the place! Lots of very fast music, but slower, haunting metal on some tracks, and some weird bits. Quite like the originality of the music, the growled vocals all the way through though are a pain in the tonsils (for him probably too!). Strange release!!
VOICES OF WONDER / SANKT JORGENS ALLE 7 O.G. / 1615 KOBENHAVN V / DENMARK.

**GRIMOIRE A Reqiuem For The Light CD**
Death metal here from Israel. Growled vocals all the way through, mostly fast stuff, with some atmospheric and oriental influenced parts as well. Was glad when the album finished..Boring.
VOICES OF WONDER RECORDS.

**ALL DAY / STOMACH split 7"EP**
A cool split project here between Know Records from Long Beach, California, and Rejected Records, Ireland. All Day have been reviewed here before, and their two tracks here are excellent once again, fast hardcore that's got tunes as well. Stomach's two tracks are similar, but as you'd expect, slightly less American sounding. Good stuff.
REJECTED RECORDS / 9 WOODLANDS AVE / DUN LAOGHAIRE / CO. DUBLIN / IRELAND.

**COALESCE 002 7"**
More from Earache, this is more like Earth Crisis or Stampin Ground territory, from Kansas City, US, certainly ferocious and heavy hardcore / metal crossover, but for me, it just doesn't stand out from the crowd of countless other bands doing this stuff. Apparently formed out of the straight-edge scene, although that doesn't seem to reflect in the lyrics, which cover mainly personal feeling style stuff. (EARACHE).

**RESINATE Brown Paper Bag 7"**
It's been a few years since I heard anything released by Earache!! Resinate are from Bristol and they play totally boring Helmet style metal/hardcore crossover, with a slight rave feel in places. Not my thing at all.
EARACHE RECORDS / P O BOX 144 / NOTTINGHAM / NG3 4GE.

**INHALER Volume CD**
The info sheet says Industrial techno guitar music, a cross between Quorn, early Therapy? and the Chemicla Brothers. Nuff said. Total bollox. Got halfway through this and had to turn it off, I couldn't bear any more....
SERIOUSLY GROOVY / DAVE HOLMES / 3RD FLOOR / 28 D'ARBLAY STREET / SOHO / LONDON / W1V 3FH.

**FURY OF FIVE No Reason To Smile CD**
Hardcore crossover here from New Jersey, USA, influenced by Machine Head, Sepultura and Pantera. Certainly has some New York style anger and intensity, but as with a lot of the 90's bands of this style, it's way too metal sounding for me.
GAIN GROUND UK / X-PRESS P.R. / OFFICE A / 16 MARMION ROAD / GRANGEMOUTH / FK3 8QU.

**NEGLECT Four Years of Hate double CD**
Similar to the above band, and hailing from Long Island. They've now broken up, and this is a compilation of all their recordings, released on 2 CD's by Gain Ground Records in Germany, total playing time 2 hours!! You get all the demos and records they released, plus some unreleased live tracks. More hardcore and raging than Fury of Five, but still fairly metally. They sound angry in their music and in their lyrics about the sick society we live in. OK for a while, but my attention wandered well before the end of the two hours....(GAIN GROUND UK).

**V/A Cassette**
An international comp tape, made in Japan by Fuck Fashion Town Tapes. Mostly really raging hardcore punk, standouts are England's PUS, GRIMJACK, and some live tracks from SPITE, plus Holland's BOYCOT and BULLSHIT PROPAGANDA, and Germany's LOST IN THE SUPERMARKET. Pretty variable comp overall, as the rest of the bands are Japanese, and most of them are very average. Overall, worth a look.
THOMAS MILDE / ANTON-GREBE-STR. 4 / 31139 HILDESHEIM / GERMANY.

**SICK OF SOCIETY Silicon Valley CD**
Sick of Society are from Germany, and this is a seven track mini CD that the band have released themselves, the first release other than a couple of demos. Their style is predominently metal, although there's enough variety and strange rhythms and time changes to make it interesting. A grower...
OLIVER KAST / ROMERSTR. 26 / 89269 VOHRINGEN/ GERMANY.

**SLENDER Shoplifter Demo**
This is a good 12 minutes of melodic punk from Middlesex, late 70's influenced sort of thing, with sung vocals and choruses, powerful clean guitar chords, mostly nips along at a medium pace. Three tracks, no lyrics included, but the songs are called Today I'm A Shoplifter, Daytime TV Nation, and 90 Believers. And I must admit, to begin with I thought the band were called Shoplifter... anyway, good old punk that sounds pretty refreshing.
SLENDER / 13 LABURNUM AVE / YIEWSLEY / MIDDX.

**JEFFREY'S FRIDGE Amazing Disgrace Demo**
Tuneful, slowish punk from Scotland here, with the band citing their influences as being from Black Sabbath to Black Flag, and The Sex Pistols to Shampoo (who?). Doesn't sound bad either.
SCOTT / 22 BROOM COURT / STIRLING / FK7 7UL.

**HOMOMILITIA Niszcz rasizm, ale najpierw w swojej glowie tape**
Fuck! I'm still shaking after listening to this!! Excellent raging crusty HC punk from Poland. Intese as hell, mostly fast, but slower bits too. Dual vocals, sometimes male/female, other times dual male!! - screaming at you in total anger. But this ain't just another sloppy thrash band, it's as tight as fuck and the productions hot. how come there ain't hardly any bad Polish bands? You might guess their lyrical content by the band name - the lyrics are all in Polish, so I can't understand them, but the cover shows two men in an "embrace". Although i'd heard Of them, this is my first expereience of them, and I desperately want to hear more! Help! Can't get enough of this... 14 tracks, some live, this seems to be some sort of LP cassette..?.
HOMOMILITIA / WOJTEK KRAWCZYK / BOX 206 / 90-961 LODZ 52 / POLAND.

**SOCIAL GENOCIDE War Destruction tape**
A live and rehearsal session from this Austrian band, released on a Japanese tapes label. Classic style Dis-core here, sound quality is very good considering it's live and rehearsal, the music is good, but certainly nothing new. As you'd expect, lyrics about war and dying....
PEACE PUNK TAPES / YUKITERU ASAI / 103 KATOREYA-KOPO / 1-65-2 YAMATO-CHO / NAKANO-KU / TOKYO / 165 JAPAN.

**MEDULLA NOCTE adv for 7"**
More piledriving hardcore crossover mayhem from this Worcestershire band - their best stuff to date I reckon, seems more HC and ferocious to me, fast in places, slower but really heavy in others, while the vocals scream at you in pain rather than anger !!
HOUSEHOLD NAME RECORDS / P O BOX 12286 / LONDON / SW9 6FE.

**THE BLOODY VICE Demo**
Described in the promo as influenced by The Stupids, early Napalm Death and Extreme Noise Terror, this band from Australia present an interesting first demo. Not tuneful enough to be likened to The Stupids, not punk enough for ENT, but they do play 1000mph grind like early ND, with some slower bits, and a few 10 second songs. The main influence on their sound is having a drum machine, which sounds strange in places, good in others. Lyrically, trying to be offensive apparently, with punks, fatties, and Italians being the targets, although the band insist these are not general targets, just about people they know....
THE BLOODY VICE / P O BOX 2036 / WODEN / ACT 2606 / AUSTRALIA.

**SOLAR RACE My Enemy Demo**
I don't have much info about this band, but I assume they're from Manchester, as that's where the tape arrived from. Three longish tracks, hard to compare with any particular band, but they play powerful, slowish post HC sort of thing with female vocals that are mostly melodic but angrier occasionally. Not bad.
SOLAR RACE / FLAT 3 / DEANS HOUSE / 150 PARTINGTON LANE / SWINTON / MANCHESTER / M27 0WN.

**DISTORTED TRUTH Demo**
Good solid punk here from Sittingbourne, Kent, I was impressed by this tape. They play old style Brit punk 80's style, with serious lyrics/attitude. Remind me at times of PUS - that sort of style. Mostly mid-tempo, occasional faster songs, all with a distorted buzzsaw guitar sound. Also reminded me at times of an old Scottish band - The Disturbed...
JONNY / 9 PARADISE COTTS. / LOWER ROAD/ HARTLIP / SITTINGBOURNE / KENT / ME9 7SU.

**BENDER Jehovas Allstars CD**
First thing i've heard on Words of Warning for a while, London's Bender seem to be building up a decent following. They play funky energetic kind of hardcore, and they seems to be friends of Citizen Fish, seeing as there's a photo of them in the booklet. Lyrics are good too, along the Dick Lucas lines too. Musically reminded me of Rage Against The Machine at times in the vocal department, but musically, more interesting, lots of different punky styles weaving into each song. Like it.
WORDS OF WARNING / P O BOX 703 / BRISTOL / AVON / BS99 5LS.

**KING PRAWN Poison In The Air CDEP**
Another London band on Words of Warning, this is a three track EP of ska/punk/raggae stuff, which bounes along quite nicely. The three tracks are varied too, the first being a skanking number, the second a punkier upbeat number, the third track a slower reggae song. (WORDS OF WARNING)

**J CHURCH The Drama of Alienation CD**
Yet another new album from this US band, and although the promo sheet says it's their fourth album, i'm sure they've done more than that - perhaps they're not counting mini-albums... anyway, this is on a new label called Honest Don's Hardly Used Recordings, which is distributed by Fat Wreck Chords. This is up to the standard of J. Church's other albums, nothing really different, a little more produced in places than other albums, but basically, the melodic and intelligent J Church we know and love...?

**KING PRAWN First Offence CD**
The debut album from this London band, more rap, punk fusion, less skanking than on the CDEP, this is a bit punkier, sounding like Bender in parts, more like Bad Brains in others. Good lyrics about cops, immigration beaurocrats, life on the dole etc. King Prawn is a crap name for a band tho'...!
WORDS OF WARNING

**BRACKET E Is For Everything On Fat CD**
This is a lot better than I was expecting, i'd not heard too much by them, but have seen them live a couple of times and thought they were really boring. There's more to them on this release though than being another Green Day clone band - especially the first few tracks on this, I assume these are their new tracks - they sound really powerful, the production won me over. Later tracks are their previous 7" tracks for Fat Wreck...ocassionally they veer into slow really poppy stuff which I wasn't so keen on - the best songs were the straight ahead punk energy with tunes. (FAT WRECK CHORDS).

**V/A Punk O Rama Vol 2 CD**
Another of these cheap price label samplers, this time from Epitaph. All the tracks featured are either released, or soon to be released. The bands are: Bad Religion, New Bomb Turks, TSOL, Poison Idea, Descendents, Voodoo Glow Skulls, Down By Law, Rancid,Millencolin, Pennywise, SNFU, NOFX, The Humpers, Pulley, Me First And The Gimme Gimmes, and The Joykiller.

**LARDARSE Snow Future Demo**
Tuneful anarcho punk here from Nottingham, although i've heard of them, this is the first time i've heard their stuff. Shouted male vocals and screamed female vocals, with basic but powerful driving music, with lyrics about drugs, the French nuclear tests (hence Snow Future..), religion and "cosmetic punks". Can't really say who they sound like, but it's a good effort.
FLUFF / 1 CEDAR ROAD/FOREST FIELDS / NOTTINGHAM / NG7 6HZ.

**V/A You Don't Have To Fuck People Over To Survive tape**
Raging stuff here, one of the best comps i've heard in a while. Loads of DIY raging hardcore punk bands, plus a few more melodic ones, from the UK and various western countries, plus Slovenia, and also some bands from South America, Japan, South Afrcia and Canada. Too many to name, but the best ones are: KIROUS, BULLSHIT PROPAGANDA, THE WAY, and WAASERDICHT. Excellent all around.
BAD APPLE DISTRO & TAPES / 5 ST GEORGES CLOSE / EVESHAM / WORCS / WR11 6GA.

**NAPALM DEATH / COALESCE In Tongues We Speak CDEP**
It's been a while since i've heard ND, they've changed a fair bit, but somehow there's a familiar sound to this - they've slowed down a bit, the slower drumming giving it a heavier sound, but Barney's vocals are similar, and the guitar sound is still there. Not as bad as I was expecting. Coalesce give two more brutal tracks, there's nothing more to say than what I said about their 7". OK I guess if you're into this genre. (EARACHE RECORDS)

**MAD SIN God Save The Sin CD**
I'm not wasting space on this. The promo says old style punk, snotty and vulgar, but to me it sounded rather tame. Old style punk from Germany with loads of psychobilly bits (I think?). Totally throwaway meaningless drivel.
COUNT ORLOK MUSIC / P O BOX 2738 / 3000 CS ROTTERDAM / THE NETHERLANDS.

**JAYNE DOE / SHALLOW split 7"EP**
Vinyl debuts here from two Stoke bands, put out by a new label that is run by the drummer of Jayne Doe, but is also planning more DIY records of other bands too. Jayne Doe play fast poppy punk, J Church and Snuff being influences. The sort of thing Crackle might release.. The 3 songs are promising, and with better production, they'll sound hot! Shallow are more grungy influenced than punk/HC influenced i'd say, but they sound OK, better

production, they'll sound hot! Shallow are more grungy influenced than punk/HC influenced i'd say, but they sound OK, better production on this side of the record. A project worth supporting.

NOTHING VENTURED RECORDS / 199 NEW INN LANE / TRENTHAM / STOKE-ON-TRENT / STAFFS / ST4 8PS.

### ANTI-FLAG Die For The Government CD

More hot stuff from New Red Archives, who put out some quality bands, and don't stick to just bands of one sound/style. This is old style 1980 kind of punk, kept simple, but with ace production and played really really tight - these guys can play a bit, and the singer can sing, as well as sound angry and pissed off. Which also describes the lyrics, about cops, the rich etc, and a few about steriotypes in the punk scene, which is amusing, as these guys look the most steriotyped punks i've seen..!! You've gotta pick this up.

NEW RED ARCHIVES / P O BOX 210501 / SAN FRANCISCO / CA 94121 / USA.

### ENGINE 88 Seconal 7"

Two very short songs - pop punk/indie drivel that completely passed me by. No lyric sheet.

CAROLINE UK / 12 BARLEYMOW PASSAGE / CHISWICK / LONDON / W4 4PH.

### V/A Hepatit D 7"EP

An excellent punk/HC/crust comp from the guy out of Disorganised, who have a track on here from their demo (reviewed elsewhere). The other bands are the excellent Atomvinter and Greenscab, the only let down being Redrum Inc, who just sound like a mess. I should have some of these in to sell, so write to me at the address at the front, or to the address in the Disorganised demo review.

### ENOLA GAY / SPASM split tape

A cool tape here from two French bands. Enola Gay's side gives us a studio quality live side, raging crustcore that sounds like ENT, complete with two growlers, they do it very well, and also have a few slower bits that are really good. SPASM are grindier and I didn't like them nearly as much, but they're OK. This tape is not for the light headed!! CALAVERA / STEPHANE LEMPEREUR / 26 RUE DU PIED MOISI / 49000 ANGERS/ FRANCE.

### THE OFFSPRING Ixnay on the Hombre CD

First new release since the Smash album, this is pretty much the same formula as that release, which is good to see in a way, at least they haven't wimped out, their tunes still have a certain intensity, although there's a couple of disposible tracks. I still don't see why they're so popular, they're not any better than shitloads of other bands around in my view. By the way, Epitaph is distributed outside of Europe and the US by Columbia...

### MUTINY Bodgy Tatts CD

It was a surprise to hear from this band again, so long after I reviewed their last album in a previous issue, Mutiny are from Australia and they play what they describe as 'folk punk for punk folk', with political-ish lyrics. This is a miniCD, and the most striking thing about this is that the cover is made of card, with the front and back design printed directly on it!

MUTINY / P O BOX 1158 / Nth FITZROY 3068 / VICTORIA / AUSTRALIA.

### ARCH ENEMY Black Earth CD

Totally crap and boring, death metal from Sweden!!

WRONG AGAIN RECORDS / BOX 10075 / S-220 10 LUND / SWEDEN.

### V/A Violent World - A Tribute To The Misfits CD

Some big names parade their stuff here, each covering Misfit's classics. Bands include SNAPCASE, EARTH CRISIS, THERAPY?, PRONG, 108, NOFX, FARSIDE (probably the best track here), SICK OF IT ALL & more. I couldn't really get excited by this, probably mainly as I was never a big Misfits fan, but the whole album sounds a bit mainstream for my liking. (CAROLINE REC)

### TOOL SILENCE tape

Some more metal, this time from Italy. 7 longish tracks, not really death metal, slower metal with female vocals, the more uptempo bits reminded me a little of Jingo de Lunch. Not as bad as some of the metal i've had to review, but there's a million other things i'd rather be lsitening to!

FACCHINETTI FLAVIO/VIA VESPUCCI 1/ 24100 BERGAMO / ITALY.

### THE HUMPERS Plastique Valentine CD

This band had a good track on the Punk'O'Rama comp CD that I reviewed earlier, but that track is about the only one on this full album that did anything for me, the rest of the album is pretty generic punk rock and roll stuff that's really simple and bland, seems to be typical of a lot of the stuff that Epitaph release i'm afraid.....

(Epitaph, distro in the UK by the same people who distro Fat Wreck etc... - distro'd by Columbia outside of the US/Europe...

### LUNACHICKS Pretty Ugly CD

This was a pleasant surprise - Lunchicks have been going a few years and this is their fourth album, but I don't think i've heard them before, but after listening to this, i'll have to check out their other stuff . This all-girl band knock out an album here of really potent powerful pop-punk, musically sounds a little like Tilt, but quirkier and punkier in places, and the vocals at times reimnd me of A.P.P.L.E (who were also from New York), and JINGO DE LUNCH at other times. Really good stuff.

GO KART, UK distro as above..

### NO EXIT / PHONORAKES split 7"EP

This is a really excellent DIY release from Italy. No Exit are great - driving and intense but melodic HC that's really catchy, can't really be classed as pop-punk or old school, but somewhere inbetween! Both bands are from a place called Fasano (as is the guy who runs the label), and share one band member, so perhaps it's not surpising that Phonorakes sound very similar, but not quite as flowing and catchy as No Exit. I'll probably have some of these to sell, so write to the RT address, or to:

RUMBLE FISH CORPORATION / ANTONELLO L'ABBATE / VIA G. GIUSTI 93 / 72015 FASANO (BR) / ITALY.

### SUPERJACK / MUDCAKE split 7"EP

Another split EP project from Italy this time from Blu Bus Records. Superjack give us two songs that sound in a less-polished KINA style, then I realise that this band has the drummer/vocalist from Kina, who've now apparently split up. Good stuff here from Superjack. Mudcake's two tracks are in a more experimental/industrial post HC vein, and their sound isn't my thing at all. A good release tho', and also available from me, or at:

BLU BUS / VIA CONSOLATA 5 / 11100 AOSTA / ITALY.

### DANIELE BRUSACHETTO Paturnie 7"EP

Daniele Brusachetto is one of the members from Mudcake (and also another band WHIP), here he is a one man band, the style here is experimental/industrial, with rather basic sounding production and a drum machine. Doesn't really do anything for me i'm afraid, but it is a worthwhile DIY project between Daniele's label and two other labels.

DANIELE BRUSACHETTO / VIA SCOTELLARO 71 / 10155 TORINO / ITALY.

### ASSERT Assert Yourself 7"EP

The dsbut EP here from these Telford thrashers, after a series of good demos. They've released this EP themselves. Good it is too - again, I should have a few of these to sell by the time you read this. Heavy and intense hardcore with metal influences, delivered in an angry and original way. Good lyrics too, especially the more direct 'Corporate Logo Strangulation'. This isn't a band that's prepared to stay run of the mill musically, and there's more to them lyrically than another tyical çrossover band.

HIDEOUS EYE RECORDS / 45 CHILTERN GARDENS / DAWLEY / TELFORD / SHROPSHIRE / TF4 2QQ.

### COMPOUND RED 7"EP

A two tracker here from Wisconsin,US. This one's really grown on me. I suppose you'd call this emo sort of stuff, although who it compares to i'm not sure, there's millions of emo bands about in the States, but I must admit, i'm not too much up on it. This is at times angst ridden hardcore, but always tuneful, and at times a little like early Jawbreaker. Those descriptions may not be doing this justice, just to say I liked both songs a lot.

HARDSPUN RECORDS / P O BOX 71327 / MILWAUKEE / WI 53211 / USA.

### EPOCH Demo

Strange death metal here from Northern Ireland. Mostly slowish, with long tracks, rather dodgy production, and a few odd influences/sounds here and there. Not my thing at all.

JASON BARRISKILL / 35 WHITESIDESHILL / PORTADOWN / CO ARMAGH / N IRELAND / BT62 3RJ.

### THE BABIES Barny Demo

This was a nice surprise from Margate in Kent, where they seem to be getting a solid little scene together. Awful band name, but they sound good. Four short sharp numbers here, simple but tight and chunky pop-punk, with the singer having a strong melodic voice. Good production and a nice colour cover. Check this out! £1 + 2 stamps to:

GEEK SCENE COLLECTIVE / 74 BYRON AVENUE / MARGATE / KENT / CT9 1TX.

### JUGHEAD'S REVENGE Image Is Everything CD

This is a good album from Nitro Records, the best of the bunch I think on this label. They play melodic, typical US punk, reminding me at times of early No Use For A Name. This album combines energy, agression and melody, with good layered song structures and good production. Like it. Topics include sellouts and bouncers...

NITRO RECORDS / 7071 WARNER AVE / F-736 HUNTINGTON BEACH / CA 92647 / USA

## STUFF TO READ

### BEYOND REALITY #3 (50P + SAE)

The new issue of this Bristol zine, #2 was reviewed in my last issue. Carries on where the last one left off. There's interviews with Marker, Cracked Cop Skulls and Hard To Swallow, plus plenty of reviews (no review of RT !!!!???), and a ton of gig reviews. Also one or two rants by Graham the editor. Some of the reviews are quite critical, Graham doesn't mince his words, especially in the gig reviews - I liked to read what he thought of some of the gig attendences and the venues he's been to. A good read.

GRAHAM / 58 RICHMOND ROAD / MONTPELIER / BRISTOL / BS6 5EW / ENGLAND.

### CAUSTIC TRUTHS #41 ($2)

A Canadian zine that seems to have been going a while judging by the number of issues they've got through. Very DIY & basic in the zine layout, and unusually for an American zine, it's in the UK A5 format. Obviously interested in the zine scene, as they do quite a few reviews of these, but apart from that I found very little to interest me. The styles of music are too commercial and too varied for me, only a few of the reviews were on things I'd heard of or wanted to hear about, there's even a couple of Top 10 listings, separated into Majors, and Indies!! Wasn't too impressed with this I'm afraid....

P O BOX 92548 /152 CARLETON STREET/ TORONTO / ONTARIO / CANADA / M5A 2K0.

### HAPPY HOUSE #6

This is the autumn 96 issue, so there should be a new issue out soon. this free zine is pretty informative. Just send an SAE to get it, you get addresses and news from loads of UK distros, labels, zines and the like (including me!!), some reviews of zines, and records, the Happy House distro list, the 'Rick rants..' column, and interviews with me(!), SNFU, Ampersand and Capability Green.Excellent!

P O BOX 506 / HULL / HU5 1YX / ENGLAND.

### BHP #9 (50p + SAE)

After a long layoff, BHP is back. Plenty to read here, on Pennywise, Schema, Riverdales, CIV, Dawson, and some articles. What amazes me here is that the printing is so good. Did they do this themselves? Well, if so, it's helluva lot better than the job (?) they did for #11 of Ripping Thrash (the split issue with Hell & Damnation) - the printing here is so clear and legible, no blotches, printed throughout on gloss paper, and the folding/stapling is perfect....Ah well, I've had my moan, I'll fuck off now, but I couldn't review this without mentioning their way dodgy printing service -AVOID!

BHP / 1 CHANDOS ROAD / TUNBRIDGE WELLS / KENT / TN1 2NY.

### NO SENSATION #4 ($3 ppd)

It's been a while, but at last Andrew's back with a new issue of this excellent South African zine. Still reminds me quite a lot of the UK's own Aversion, although it's changed a little since the first couple of issues. Andrew likes to interview some zine editors, this time it's Anthony from Duhhh, Chris from Slug & Lettuce, and there's an interview with Bri from Days Of Fury label/distro, and with Gecko, the music newsletter from Switzerland. Band wise, there's Hinfamy, Mexican Power Authority, Human Waste, Morticite, plus a Finnish scene report, reviews, and some interesting articles. Also, this is a sort of split issue, the split being a zine called IIIrd World Retaliation, first issue, this is only 8 pages, but has a few rants etc on various international anarchist issues. An excellent read!

ANDREW / P O BOX 1901 / BEDFORDVIEW / 2008 / SOUTH AFRICA.

### REAL OVERDOSE #10 (£1 + SAE)

Loads more to read here in the latest issue of this Ipswich bi-monthly. 68 pages this time, so getting bigger all the time, and as always, loads crammed into these pages. This issue has Red Flag 77, Strung Out, Ampersand, Capability Green, Voodoo Glow Skulls, and Mr T Experience, plus one or two other bands who i'd not heard of, and who didn't really seem to have a lot to say of interest....Loadsa reviews as always, a few articles / comments / rants, things they like/dislike, and stuff on footy. Get it from:

64 CHATSWORTH DRIVE / RUSHMERE PARK / IPSWICH / IP4 5XD / SUFFOLK / ENGLAND.

### ARTCORE #11 (50p + SAE)

A ten year special issue, Welly just beat me to it !! His ten years came in February '96, so this zine has been out a while, but it's well worth checking out. As usual, excellent artwork, good interviews with Spite, English Dogs, Erase Today and Four Letter Word, plus a cartoon page, a resume of those 10 years of Artcore, a page of predictions for 1996, and a few pages of reviews (including some zines).

WELLY / 1 ABERDULAIS ROAD / GABALFA / CARDIFF / CF4 2PH / S WALES.

### BYPASS #7 (£1.80)

Another issue of this review zine for zines, which covers a whole spectrum of non-commercial and subversive literature, from punk music zines, to political mags and newsletters to comics and art zines. Quite a lot is written about each zine, and the reviews are honest. This is up to issue 7 now and it contiues to grow in size as well as get more and more glossy. Looks real neat and professionally laid out. Seems to be coming out regularly now, so send your publication for review!

BYPASS / P O BOX 148 / HOVE / BN3 3DQ.

### SLUG & LETTUCE #47

Another issue of this excellent and free US zine. Christine is now getting this out pretty regular, and it's now up to 16 pages on tabloid newsprint style. Loads of reviews, classifieds and contacts etc, plus ads, Chris's photos, a few of her thoughts and ideas, and a few rants by one or two other folk. This is free, but include $1.50 or 3 IRC's for postage if you're from UK/Europe - alternatively you can get this from Active Distro, and also various distros in Europe.

P O BOX 2067 / PETER STUY. STN. / NYC / NY 10009-8914 / USA

### HELL AND DAMNATION #2 (30P + SAE) and #3 (30p + SAE)

More madcap issues from Colin - better printing this time as Colin's also gone to Juma now for printing. Punk as fuck in content and in layouts etc, lots of reviews in small handwriting!! #2 hasinterviews with Crow, Rajoitus and Forca Macabra, a piece on Rectify, while #3 is a split with Finland's Angel Heart zine. The HAD side has interviews with me(!),Democratic Disorder (Brazil) and Faceache, while AH has Denak (Spain) and Violent Headache (also from Spain). A good international feel with HAD as always. A must!

COLIN / 22 BURNS VILLAS / EAST LANE / STAINFORTH / DONCASTER / SOUTH YORKS / DN7 5DP.

### AVERSION #5 (25P + SAE)

A brand new issue from Chris, no let down here either. A really good consistent zine this, and now pretty regular too. Each issue is now 20 pages to keep it regular, and it's at the bargain price of 25P! This issue has Fleas & Lice, Detestation, a State of Filth Euro tour diary, news, Croatia scene report, Bullshit Propaganda bio, an article by the London ABC, plus reviews.

CHRIS / P O BOX 22 / BRADFORD / BD2 4YX.

### BALD CACTUS #12 (40P+ SAE)

More mad stuff from Andy, he's certainly getting this out pretty regularly now. This one has Flag of Democracy, Newtown Grunts, The Short'N'Curlies, The Bus Station Loonies and the usual humour, rants etc. A great read! ANDY CACTUS / P O BOX HP171 / LEEDS / W YORKS / LS6 1XX.

### RIGSBY #4 (not sure of price - 50P + SAE?)

A good zine that's new to me, put out by one of the people involved in the Just One Life Collective in Brighton. In this are Snap-Her, Gas Huffer, No Legs, a tons of reviews and some other bits and bobs.

Not sure of address..

### URBAN VALUE #2 (40p + sae)

Another zine from Brighton. This has Stampin Ground, Medulla Nocte, Ignite,

59 Times The Pain, Refused, some reviews, and quite a few photos of bands that have played in Brighton.
IAN / 142 SPRINGFIELD ROAD / BRIGHTON / EAST SUSSEX / BN1 6BZ.

**VIOLATION #4 (80p + sae)**

Still lots of metal bands in this zine, but also pieces on Happy House, Active Minds, MDM, and a few other adverts.
20 GLADSTONE ROAD / SCARBOROUGH / N YORKSHIRE / YO12 7BH

**DISCONNECTION #2 (50P ???? + SAE)**

So there is life in Preston? A good zine this, vegan straight edge, but not in a fascist way, and having met Mark, he seems like a nice bloke. In this you'll find Gorilla Biscuits, Spazz, and No Barcodes Necessary zine (a lengthy one!), plus reviews, some of Mark's opinions, and a veganism rant by RT's only columnist, Baz!
9 BEECHWOOD AVE / PRESTON /LANCS / PR2 3TL.

**SCH(L)UND #1 ($2 ppd I should think..)**

This is a comic zine done by the guy out of Lost In The Supermarket. All the text is in German, but you get a translation sheet with the zine. If you're into comic stuff, then check this out. They'll trade too..
THOMAS MILDE / ANTON GREBE STR. 4 / 31139 HILDESHEIM / GERMANY.

**RIOT AND DANCE #1 ($3 ppd ??)**

A new zine from France, A5 size, and loads to read in it. Unfortunately a lot of it is in French, so I couldn't make out too much of it, but anyone who speaks the lingo should check this out. Seems a pretty international zine in it's content too, which is good to see. Interviews with Gulag, Squal, New Wave Records, Resistance Productions, plus scenes from Hungary (wish I could read that!) and Greece. A worthwhile effort indeed.
ANTHONY GIRAUD / LES REILLAUDRIES / 85110 SAINT-PROUANT / FRANCE.

**SUFFERAGE ZINE #3 ($4 ppd)**

Absolutely loads to read in this Malaysian zine, and all in really good English too. Musically leans more toward the SxE scene, interviews with Dougnuts, Insane, Rejuvante, plus Malaysian bands Basic Rights and Insane etc, plus scene reports and lots of personal type articles. A massive 72 pages in all!
MAN / 25 JALAN SUASA SATU / KOLAM AIR / 80100 JOHOR BAHRU / JOHOR / MALAYSIA.

**LEGION OF THE DOOMED #2 (not sure of price)**

New zine here from London, although I think the guy that does it may have since moved...? Anyway, this is a promising zine with Panic, Red Flag 77, and Columbian Hi Rise interviews, plus loads of music, zine and gig reviews, and a few other bits n pieces!
TOBY / 5 ROOKE WAY / GREENWICH / LONDON / SE10 0JB.

**MAD MONKS #8 (£1.50ppd)**

This zine from South Wales is getting pretty regular, and it's always jam packed with loads of reduced type!! Altho overall the zine is a bit pricey. Anyhow, inside this one you'll find The Vandals, Lagwagon, The Mr T Experience, Heads Apart, Spite, Russell Remains, Kip Xool, Smile and Be Happy Records and yet loads more!! And as always, loads of reviews too.
MAD MONKS / 15 LEVEN CLOSE / LAKESIDE / CARDIFF / CF2 6DN / WALES.

**FLOUR POWER #7 ($3-4 I should think)**

A thought provoking anarchist zine from Canada that's been going a few years but this is the first time i've seen it. This one has an interview with Capitalistic Casualties, the rest is made up of articles, opinions and some reviews from a musical and political point of view.
REJOICE / BOX 1194 / KAMLOOPS / BC / V2C 6H3 / CANADA

**BASURA #9 ($3 ppd should cover it)**

A good little zine from an Asian American girl in Illinois. There's always some interesting stuff in this zine. This one has interviews with Canada's Impact, and also Iconoclast, plus a Philippines scene report, and also a bunch of personal rants and a few reviews. #10 out now I think..
MICHIKO / P O BOX 5013 / WOODRIDGE / IL 60517 / USA.

**PSYCHE OUT Winter 96 issue ($2?)**

A neat looking zine here from Italy, unfortunately it's in Italian, so I can't understand it, but it seems pretty good. Has interviews with Das Klown, Vortice Cremisi, Humus, Bali Girls and more. Also some music and some zine reviews. I have to say i've not heard of a lot of the bands in here, so i'm not sure if it may be a mix of hardcore and metal????
SILVANO PERTONE / VIA GALLESI 20/32 / 16163 SAN QUIRICO / GENOVA / ITALY.

**SMALL SAILOR #3 (50P + SAE)**

This is a new zine to me, and it's huge for only 50P - lots to read! Interviews include Oxymoron, Descendents, Ex-Cathedra, and Rugger Bugger (the label), plus some stuff on how to make a zine, record collectors and more. Plus the usual reviews plus some gigs. Oh, and by the way, this zine is done by two people, one lives in Thirsk, the other in Nottingham!!
RICH T / 39 STATION ROAD / THIRSK / NORTH YORKSHIRE / YO7 1QH.

**V.I.T.R.I.O.L #More! ($2 or trade)**

More mayhem from Slovenia. This is actually the third issue. Too much crammed in here to name everything, but it includes interviews with Verbalni Delikt (Slovenia), Barricades (Poland), Cause For Effect (Finland), plus loads of articles, reviews, gigs, some photos and some political stuff. As always, it's presented in a DIY sloppy but totally readable way, with some of it in English, some in Slovenian. Support this!
JOLANDA ROSKAR / HAJDOSE 43/c / 2251 PTUJ / SLOVENIA (EUROPE)

**FECAL FORCES #5 ($2 or trade)**

This is a smart zine from Croatia. I'm distroing this zine! It's all in English, the editor must have good English too, cause there's indepth news and reviewed, and detailed interviews with Time To Think, & Bad Influence from Belgium, and more, plus some anarchist news/articles, and the editor seems to take an interest in porn too (adverts plus an interview with the editor of a french porn mag)
BORIS 'KUKATZ' MILAKOVIC / SV. DUHA 30 / 34000 POZEGA / CROATIA.

**TOTAL DISORDER #1 (I think!) ($2?)**

Ace looking DIY zine from Italy here, shame I can't read it, as it's all in Italian, but this has it's roots in old style Italian HC, in the graphics, and there's even a quote from the lyrics of Mai Arrendersi by Wretched on the front cover! Interviews include Active Minds, 77 Spreads, Atrox, The Business, Tomato Rotten, plus pages on Contempt, Profane Existence, and Varukers. No reviews! But there's quite a few cartoons and photos. Loads to read in here, I wish I understood.....
MASI SALVATORE / VIA CAMPOBASSO 19 INT. 6 / 00176 ROMA / ITALY.

**D.B.N #33 War on Reality Issue ($4?)**

An underground metal zine here from Florida, so this doesn't hold too much interest for me, although there's some punk/HC reviews and funnily enough, quite a few ads from Fat Wreck and the like. I think the editors got a Blanks 77 interview lined up for next time, along with more politics. This is in newssheet format ala MRR etc.
D.B.N. / P O BOX 3547 / LANTANA / FL 33465-3547 / USA.

**NO BARCODES NECESSARY #4 (£1)**

At last a new issue of Mel's zine from Northern Ireland, this has been a while in the making, but the effort put in shows here. Lots to read in 36 A4 pages. Interviews are with Capability Green, Rain Still Falls, Upright, Second Nature zine, MID, plus tons of reviews and views/columns. Great stuff!
MEL HUGHES / 83 GLEBE PARK / ENNISKILLEN / BT74 4DB / NORTHERN IRELAND.

**VISION ON #11 (£1 ?)**

Longstanding zine, this time has Joykiller, Shutdown, Vandals, Done Lying Down and Bouncing Souls, plus reviews (loads!) and some columns.
27 SPRINGBANK CROFT / HOLMFIRTH / WEST YORKS / HD7 1LW.

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# ROUND UP........

Here's a round up of a few other things I bought or traded etc, not sent for review, but things I think are worthwhile mentioning.....If you want to know any more on these, addresses etc, then just write to the Ripping Thrash address. Please try to enclose a stamp for quick reply!!!

Get The Usual Suspects Out - this is a comp CD from Italy, and is a collaboration of 4 labels, one being the label formed by the band Crunch, who have a track on here, one of the other labels is Vacation House, run by the ex-Indigesti singer. His new band SAHELIAN FEED have a track on here. Loads of other bands, too many to mention. OK, but too many of the bands fall into the grungy category....

Some folk in Notts have put out a comp 7"EP, which doesn't seem to have a title, but it comes in an Ambala sweets centre pack. One tracks each by Scotland's Curll, Birmingham's Cradle, Germany's Malva, Belgium's Honey Honey, and Devon's Useful Idiot. Mostly twisted hardcore / emo sort of stuff....

STALINGRAD/UNDERCLASS - new tracks from these raging bands - twisted, angry and totally hard core - Stalingrad from Bradford and Underclass are from Manchester..REVOLUCION X 7"EP- political and raging hardcore from Mexico - well worth checking out - available from various UK DIY distros....OI POLLOI Guilty 7"EP, this one's been out a while but it's a good sampler of their newer stuff, punk as fuck, on Ruptured Ambtions Records. RHYTHM COLLISION Clobberer CD - excellent stuff this, tuneful but also bashful and in your face punk rock. LIFETIME Hello Bastards CD - really like this too, again it's melodic hardcore, but with loads of power and lots of rhythm changes. Intense but melodic at the same time! SOCIAL UNREST Complete Studio Recordings Vol2 - a little different to the stuff they're doing now, this dates back to the early-mid 80s, good stuff. ISHI Sotto La Pioggia LP - an Italian band that boats ex-members of Negazione, Franti etc. Melodic folky punk in the KINA vein, but softer and less punky than Kina, and in places goes really weird, which isn't surprising if you ever heard Franti when they were around in the 80s !! Kina meanwhile have released a CD called Troppo Lontano e altre Storie, it's a comp of their early material (demos, 7" records etc). Ace melodic and sometimes folky punk. They now have a brand new LP/CD out, which I'll probably mention later, when I've got a copy of it ! ETERNIT are another band from Italy who have an EP now out, and it's available from my distribution list (send £2.00 ppd to Ripping Thrash address!), melodic hardcore with female vocals. Good stuff! "Durniu Laivas" is a comp tape from a guy who does a radio show in Vilnius, Lithuania. This is probably the best tape i've heard so far from Lithuania, the pick of the bunch are ERKE MAISE, PILK, SKAT, and MARICHUANA, all playing solid tuneful hardcore punk. This tape is now available from me as well, for £1.50 postpaid. MARICHUANA have now split up, but they have a good 7" out (on white vinyl) as well. I got the 7" from Toks distro: Darius Radzevicius (he'll trade..), P O Box 751, 2050 Vilnius, Lithuania, or you could try the guy who did the scene report, or the record label in France it was released on: DARBOUKA RECORDS, c/o Brahim Frederic, 17 Rue de la foret, 67340 Menchhoffen, France.

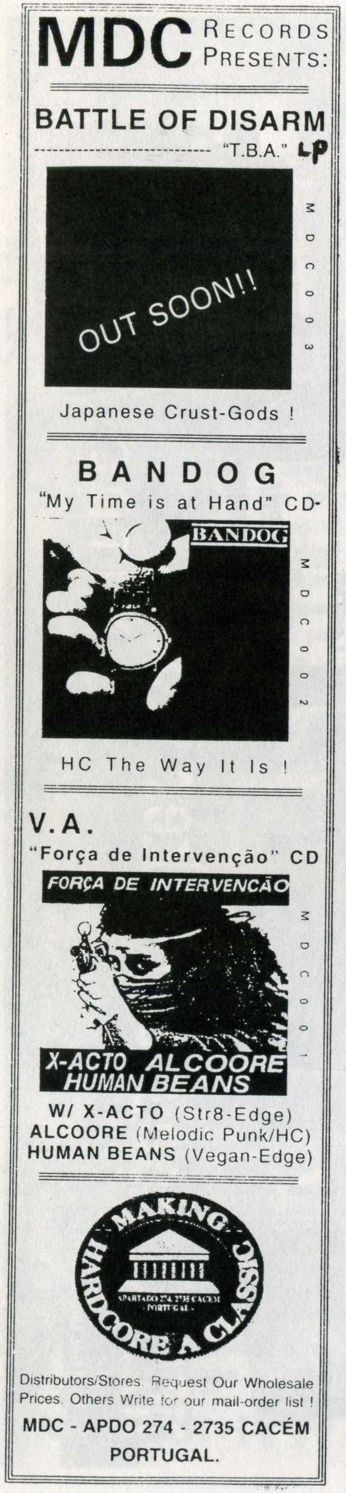
APATIA are an excellent band from Poland, playing tuneful HC with committed anti-fascist lyrics. They have a couple of full length CD's out, but I've also recently got a couple of 7" records by 'em, both are excellent, not sure how old they are, I guess both were released before the full lengths. Anyway, the 7" records are called 5 Songs About Our Destroying The System, and Punk Floyd, and I suggest you check these out, APATIA are probably the best out of a whole crop of really good Polish bands, which also includes SCHIZMA, who have an EP out on Heartcore Records in Poland, they're similar to APATIA, and then there's WLOCHATY, who have been compared to Conflict. They've an EP on Nikt Nic Nie, good it is too, raging thrash and rawish punk, they've since followed it up with a full length CD (maybe there's not many pressing plants in Poland, as there seems to be virtually no 12" records - lots of CDs though, and most of them are really good - APATIA have a couple of full length CD's available from our own Active distro in London - good value CDs with lots of tracks and at a cheap price! From Prank Records in the US comes a compilation LP by now defunct Aussie band CIVIL DISSIDENT, who were a great band playing furious punk/HC back in the 80's. This LP is a must, features all the best stuff they ever did, most of which was pretty DIY and not widely available. I got my copy of this from Inflammable Material, and I was so excited to get this, as I loved this band when they were around (and after), but only had the stuff on comps or taped copies of their other vinyl, oh dear, i'm waffling, just send off your dosh to Inflammable NOW !! Two excellent new bands from Malaysia have produced demos this summer ('96) - Chronic Mass and Basic Rights. Both play a similar kind of 90's straight edge sort of thing - Snapcase etc would be a reference point I suppose... Chronic Mass are pretty brutal, Chronic Mass are a tad more melodic but in the same style...Both are good demos - hopefully soon there'll be more new stuff from those older style melodic punk bands from Malaysia - Carboretor Dung and The Pilgrims. Bob Tilton have their debut LP now out on Subjugation, more of their Fugazi influenced hardcore, sometimes melodic, sometimes more angst-ridden. Good stuff. Haitus have a self titled mini LP/12"EP thing out on Profane Existence/Skuld Records, excellent it is too! Different to their previous releases, the music's a bit less crusty/doomy and more straight ahead crazy thrashy-sounding, which is an improvement in my view. Los Crudos LP - this one's a newie on Flat Earth to co-incide with their UK tour last year, I haven't heard anyone or read anyone who isn't impressed by these American hispanic ragers! Excellent in your face hardcore punk noise that's not that fast, just really loud and angry in the music and in the Spanish vocals... Just got a tape through the post from Don't Belong distro, c/o Modesto G.S., P O Box 8035 , 33280 Xixon, Spain, the guy Uge is into trading, so get this tape and a list: One By One 100th gig tape. The 100th gig being at the Duchess in Leeds 1/11/93, it's top notch sound too, capturing ONE BY ONE at their best, and I miss 'em too, although EBOLA are just as good, sound the same, and have half of the members in it! The tape is filled by another top notch souding gig from Glasgow 29/1/94, and the tape comes with a lyrcis booklet. The same day, I got a bundle of Polish tapes from Pete of Plop distro: 3 Regents Terrace, Barrow Road, New Holland, N Lincs, DN19 7QB. I'd never heard of any of the bands before, but they're all great. All released on the same label in Poland, but unfortunately, there isn't an address for the label on any of the tapes... All are cassette album quality and length, from SPASI SOHRANI, TAK JAK TERAZ, PARANOJA, and DLA ZIEMI II, all bands playing powerful but tuneful mid-paced hardcore with metallic/crust edges, along the lines of fellow Polish bands such as APATIA, SKTC, SCHIZMA, OD JUTRA etc etc. Neat tapes. WHIP are a band from Italy, who play slightly industrial sounding post HC with a drum machine. Enough power though to keep me interested. The guy I got this from is into trading and has some other tapes/records available, so write to: Daniele Brusachetto, Via Scotellaro 71, 10155 Torino, Italy.

Got some cool 7"EP's in from Brazil: F.D.S is the best of the bunch, they also had tracks on the Rotteness Records comp that's featured in the review section. Classic Brazilian HC in the Colera/Acao Direta vein - a split between Rottenness Records and DIY Records from Japan.

SCUM NOISE have a live EP out, a collaboration of 3 Brazilian labels. Grindcore. ROT are another grindcore band with a live EP out on Germany's Rodel Records - not as 1000mph as Scum Noise, but with wild desperate drumming... and Street Bulldogs are a new band to me. They play melodic punk/HC and their EP is a split project of Rottenness Records and Great Omi Records (also from Brazil). There's a notable comp CD released in Italy called Punk Territory Vol 4 Italian hardcore 1981-87. It features mainly demo tracks from some bands from that time who didn't manage to keep going and release any vinyl. Best bands on it are: TRAUMATIC, DICTATRISTA, STAZIONE SUICIDA and THE WOPS. And there are some new bands playing old school Italian HC as well. I got a great little tape recently, a split demo between LESS THAN ZERO and IN-SIDE. Both good bands. LESS THAN ZERO have a 10"EP available now I think. Even more old school is MONNEZZO URBANA, from Milan, they have a demo out, it's very rough sounding, they play like the very first Wretched demos, this band could be one to look out for when they tighten up a bit and with better production. Another demo I got with this bunch was from DISARM. Fast and chaotic crustcore here. I traded these tapes with Claudia (United Colours of Punk zine & distro, P O Box 241, "MBE" Via Della Moscova 13, 20121 Milano, Italy. A couple of good CD's I bought - Das Klown's Holy Crap album, first time i've heard any of their full length releases - old style US hardcore like Dead Kennedy's and Battalion of Saints - energetic and tuneful - and good punk attitude! On Know Records. Also Funeral Oration have a new album out, on Hopeless Records, USA. These dutch guys have been around for over 10 years! This must be about their fifth album. Consistent tuneful hardcore as always, simple but powerful and emotive, what's amazing is that they still have the same line up they had in the 80's!! Agathocles, the Belgian thrashers, have had a double LP (and CD i think) released on the Czech label BASTARD REC. It's a combination of a previous studio LP and a live LP I think. You can get them in the UK from Plop distro in Lincoln - shire. They also distro lots of east european releases at cheap prices, as mentioned earlier about those Polish tapes... Going back to Italy, Kina have their new and last album out, they're calling it a day. The new album's called Citta' Invisibili, and as always, it's on their own Blu Bus label.

New stuff from Fetvadd Records in Sweden (address in ad elsewhere): a new comp CD called Things Start Moving, 20 varying bands, some melodic, some metally, and a couple if Dis style bands. The best tracks are by DISFORNICATE, BLOOMCORE, POBLELN and SPOILED BRATS. STILL THE SAME have a mini CD out called Everything Is Still The Same - tuneful hardcore. And also new is JEFF Inc. MCD - poppunk sort of stuff, lots of melody. SKITSYSTEM have a 10"EP out on Distortion Records (address elsewhere), to follow up their 7"EP that was reviewed in a previous issue. Good and raging Dis-core. Finally picked up another release by HOMOMILITIA from Poland, their split EP with Finland's Brazilian ragers FORCA MACABRA. Good stuff from both bands, first time i'd heard F.M. Homomilitia have an LP out, can't wait to try and pick that up! I picked up the split EP from Crash Mag Records, where I also got DISKONTO's Shattered Society EP. Great stuff from Sweden in the Dis-vein with a large leaning towards Totalitar, which is a definite plus in my book! They sing in Swedish too. The graphics/lyrcis/layout look straight out of the Dis-era - war etc etc. ANTIDRASI have a new EP out - I didn't realise they were still going. They're from Greece and it's released by WipeOut Records. They still have that distinctive Greek sound they used to have, but they've slowed down a bit and they sound a bit moodier and postpunkish, 'tis good. No lyrics though, just some strange artwork and sleeve. Coming back to the UK, I was supposed to review the POLICE BASTARD LP released by DS4A, but my copy seemed to get lost in the post. Anyway, I bought the LP 2nd hand, pretty good raging punk, this is also the same recoding as the split CD with Defiance. Also got the STARK RAVING MAD Social Sickness 10" 2nd hand - greeat raging and unpredictable hardcore from the US, what you'd call old school I guess, this one was released by Nuclear Blast Records from Germany. Other bits and pieces: SOCIAL GENOCIDE 12" - a mini LP from this Austrian band, raging HC in the ENT vein. KOSJER D LP - excellent emo from Belgium, a class act! NO FRAUD Truth Music CD - not a new release, but a compilation of songs from their previous releases over the years. I'm glad they're still going, I've always thought they were good. Good lyrics too. They have a new recording out now, a 7"EP called Babewatch. I should be having some of these EP's to distro... FLEAS AND LICE are from Holland and have a 12"EP out called "Global Destruction" and it's released by Skuld/Profane Existance - raging hardcore/punk, all over the place stuff with male/female vocals screaming at you in anger! D.D.I are a band from Italy, their self-titled 10" is a co-operation between many DIY labels, such as Active, Looney Tunes etc. Nice refeshing ragers here like Italian bands used to do. So obviously this is right up my street! Lots of politics too! COUNTERBLAST are from Sweden, just got their CD "Balance of Pain" - this band formed out of the askes of G-ANX. The G-Anx power and rage is there at times, this is slower and more atmospheric though, likened to Neurosis. This is released by Skuld/Profane Existance/Elderberry Recs. Got some raging tapes from Slovenia recently. Abnormal Tapes are putting out some good noise bands: a split tape of SCUM NOISE from Brazil, who play grind, recorded live, and Slovenia's BLOODSUCKERS who play noisy but less extreme HC, their tracks here are from two demos. And there's a split tape of Slovenia's WASSERDICHT and Germany's WORLD CHAOS, both bands playing noisy HC/punk (not grind) with mad vocals!!! Abnormal Tapes: Matjaz Galicic, Trilerjeva 4, 1215 Medvode, Slovenia. Reactive Form Tapes have [ut out some Slovenian bands on a series of live comps recorded at the Feistritz Festival. Vol 2 has First Cause from Slovenia, plus Dark Busters and Fakofbolan from Croatia. Vol 3 has Croatia's Verbalni Delikt and Radikalna Promjena, and Slovenia's M.I.L.K and Not The Same. Both tapes contain noisy hardcore punk, reminds me of the old Yugo bands that were on my early comp tapes back in the late 80s. Write to Reactive Form tapes: Sebastjan Iskra, Rozmanova 4A, 6250 Ilirska Bistrica, Slovenia. Another Slovenian comp is Hardcore Koper 95/96, also recorded live. Bands include NO LIMITS, BLOODSUCKERS, FREGATURA, EAST 16, NABISKA etc. This one's from Scum Tapes, Mitja Hopcar, Salara 15, 6000 Koper, Slovenia. Also a couple of good demo tapes - S.F.U have been going since 1995 and have just released a brand new demo. Excellent tuneful HC with a raw and angry feel. And there's V OKOVIH who released a demo called Hard Sunshine Core. Noisier than S.F.U, but still a hint of tunefulness!! Write to me at the RT address if you want more info, or to hear these bands. Also more info on Slovenia in the next issue! CRISPY NUTS have an EP out on Cowpat Records, they're from Japan, and play catchy, straightfoward punk with female vocals. 3 WAY CUM are from Sweden and play raging crustcore, they have their full length album now out on Sound Pollution Records (USA). Excellent it is too, ace production, and a few slower bits here and there alongside the fast raging 'core...

Well, that's it. As I said before, if you want more addresses etc, just write to me. I had intended to include more of the address here, but I just don't have the space left to do it! But the roundup section in the next issue will include lots more addresses, I promise !!!!


MDC RECORDS PRESENTS:

BATTLE OF DISARM
"T.B.A." LP

Japanese Crust-Gods !

BANDOG
"My Time is at Hand" CD

HC The Way It Is !

V.A.
"Força de Intervenção" CD

W/ X-ACTO (Str8-Edge)
ALCOORE (Melodic Punk/HC)
HUMAN BEANS (Vegan-Edge)

Distributors/Stores. Request Our Wholesale Prices. Others Write for our mail-order list !

MDC - APDO 274 - 2735 CACÉM
PORTUGAL.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN AN ELECTION IS NEAR SOMETHING FOR THE MEDIA TO HYPE, THAT IS IF THEY CAN FIND SPACE WHILE COVERING THE ROYAL FAMILY AND POP STARS. IT'S STILL A LONG WAY OFF, BUT IT FEELS LIKE THE BANDWAGON HAS BEEN ROLLING FOR A YEAR ALREADY. BACKBITING, SLOGANEERING, EMPTY PROMISES, I EVEN GOT A CALL FROM ONE OF THEM THE OTHER DAY 'WE'RE SURVEYING PEOPLE'S VOTING INTENTIONS' - 'FUCK OFF SCUMBAG', WELL I NEARLY SAID IT, BUT IN THE END SAID 'NO THANKS' AND PUT THE PHONE DOWN AS QUICK AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO FORGET IT. IN ORDER TO NOT LET RAGE AND ANGER AND BITTERNESS SWELL UP INSIDE ME, ALTHOUGH IT'S DIFFICULT TO STAY CALM WRITING THIS. I SUPPOSE THEY'LL BE KNOCKING AT THE DOOR SOON, ALTHOUGH THERE'S NO BABIES HERE TO KISS..... THE POSTERS ARE GOING UP, THE SLANGING MATCHES ARE STARTING, PETTY TIT FOR TAT EXCHANGES, DEPSITE THE BEST EDUCATION AND THE BEST MONEY, THEIR FUTILE SLAGGINGS SHOW LESS INTELLIGENCE THAN YOUR AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD PET ! PROMISES BEGIN AND END IN THIS SEASON, WHAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE OR UNREALISTIC A YEAR AGO IS NOW ALMOST WRITTEN IN LAW, ALTHOUGH YOU MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE ELECTION IS OVER, WELL THERE'S A SURPRISE, AND AFTERWARDS IT WILL ALL BE FORGOTTEN. NO DECISIONS OR LAWS ARE FORTHCOMING NOW, IT'S THE WRONG SEASON. VOTE PLEASING GESTURES ARE IN, SMILING FACES ARE IN, ECONOMICAL STATISTICS, WELL THEY'RE ALWAYS IN, ANYTHING EXTREME OR CONTROVERSIAL, WELL SWEEP THAT UNDER THE CARPET, AND IT'LL BE RESURRECTED IN A WHILE. IT'S SO PREDICTABLE. AND LIKE OUR SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WE GO DOWN THE ROAD OF AMERICANISM, MAKING IT MORE OF A CHARADE, WHERE IT BECOMES INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE LEFT WING AND THE RIGHT WING. SOULS ARE SOLD FOR THE SAKE OF POWER, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS. THE PEOPLE PUT THEIR 'X' NEXT TO A CANDIDATE AND THAT'S THE ONLY SAY THEY HAVE (I SAY THAT LOOSELY) IN POLITICS EVERY FIVE YEARS, MEANWHILE, YEARS GO BY AND PEOPLE ARE STILL HOMELESS, STILL ON THE POVERTY LINE, BREATHE POLLUTED AIR, HARRASSED BY REDNECK COPS, FAMINE AND DISEASE STILL RAVAGE OUR PLANET, AND IF THE DISEASE DOESN'T CATCH YOU, DON'T THINK YOU'RE IMMUNE, THE MULTINATIONALS WILL MAKE SURE YOU'RE POISONED TO DEATH BY TOXIC WASTE, NUCLEAR RADIATION OR BY THE HOLE IN THE OZONE. WAKE UP FUCKERS !!!

# Out of control, yobs who break the law at will

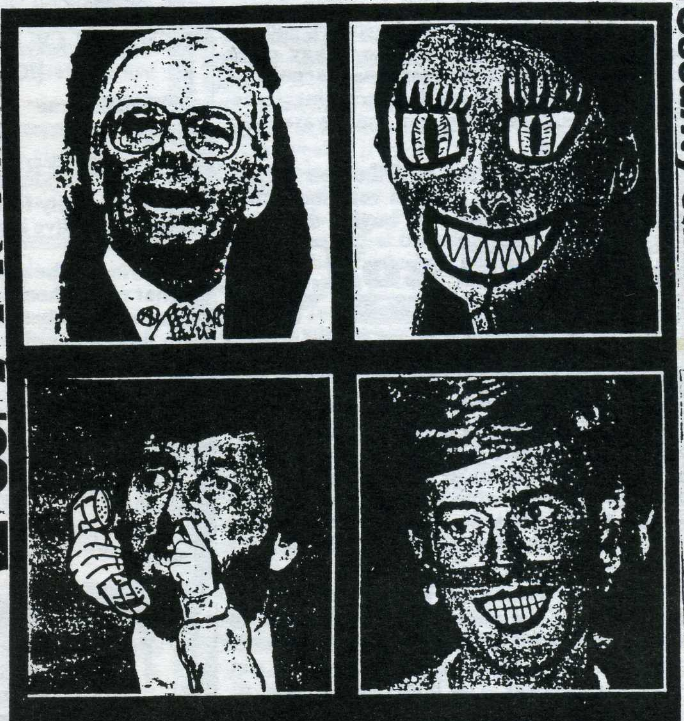
'Not in

residen

Thank God we don't have to choose

SPEC

B



Security cameras thieves and vandals!

# WHY

ISSUE 4

WHY

dishonest

Race hate

Church

jail

Well then here we are with WHY #4. I've been wanting to do a split issue for some time now and finally its arrived. Those who have read WHY before will notice a few layout differences with this issue. The biggest thing is the smaller type. This is for two reasons. a) I only have 20 pages and I still want to pack in as much as I usually fit into 52. b) This is possible because we have got this properly printed. If I used type this small usually you wouldn't be able to read it. If at all possible I'd like to continue getting the zine printed properly. It all depends on how successful this issue is though.

Those of you who haven't read WHY before will hopefully find something you like. I always try and encourage creativity in all its forms. That means that you will find artwork and the odd poem here and there. Also I may cover music that you don't necessarily see as 'punk'. I always have my reasons for including something. If its not clear then you can always write and ask.

I'm always looking for contributions of any kind. If you feel you want to contribute then don't hold back! Thanks for buying this issue.

**WHY, PO BOX 53,**
**SELBY,**
**NORTH YORKSHIRE**
**YO8 9YZ, UK**

I can't finish off this bit without saying that I'm still looking for nice folk to distro this zine for me. If you can help me in any way please write. Also if you write a zine and can review this it would also be great. Sending out free copies is really costly and, although I love to do it I can't always afford to.

At the time of writing this I've only sent off one interview and got none back. People seem to think its odd writing the intro before doing the rest of the zine. I don't see why I should tell you whats here anyway. You'll just have to read it!

If you have any comments, questions, requests, contributions, stuff for review please don't hesitate to send it to the PO Box. Thanks & Peace. John.

# WHY NEWS

Well first off if you didn't manage to get hold of WHY #3 its still available from me and various distros. I won't bore you with a big list of whats in it. Its big and its bouncy and its 60p + SAE. I'm starting up a small DIY tape label type thing too. So far I've done 3 tapes. 2 are spoken word (by me), and the 3rd is a new comp. tape called WHY VOLUME 1. For the open-minded only this contains everything from Hardcore to cider-punk and from Goth to barroom Jazz. If you'd like to get hold of a copy its £2.00ppd (or a trade from the PO box.

1997 is set to be a busy year for me too. Firstly I want to expand my distro. I plan to be popping up at gigs and doing stalls as much as possible. I think thats pretty much it for now. I hope to put stuff out on the tape label on a fairly regular basis too.

# POETRY

NOT PART OF MY SPOKEN WORD STUFF
(for a change)

## THE TRAVELLER

I am an empty fool,
No feelings live inside
me,
A shrine to the past,
That never should be,
Uncomfortably numb,
In this crass sanity,

I wander alone,
A gibbering wreck,
I ask myself what is it
like,
To be dead,
Time makes you
bleed,
At what price do we
heal?

Death in life and,
Life in death,
I laugh at the joke,
Many truths said in
jest,
I wander alone,
My trail is long,
Through many
dangers,
My quest to belong,

An empty fool,
Uncomfortably
numb,
I look back and see,
How little I've done,
I don't go so far,
For the distance I've
run.

# WHY?

With grateful thanks to:
Andy Cactus, Keef, Mel Hughes, all the folk interviewed, Chris Wheelchair, Andy Turner, Jonathon Baker, John Binns, Evan, Mike, anyone else that contributed or helped me out in any way. A big than you to all the distros that help me out and to everyone I write to.

Extra special thanks to Steve Ripping Thrash for entering into this with me.

Without the co-operation of others we could not achieve half of what we do achieve.

# News & Stuff...

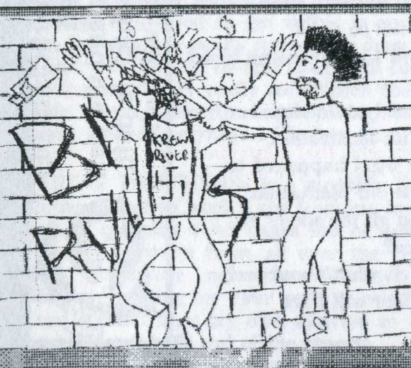
Step-1 Music will be releasing material by the following bands in early 97. Truth Decay, The Oppressed, Riot/Clone, Contempt, Red Flag 77, The Subversives (USA), The Unseen (USA), Disorderly Conduct (USA), and Sugar Snatch. Contact them for more info: PO BOX 21, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 7ZZ.

Incase you don't already know AWA Records collate a mailout of DIY distributors. If your not already on their mailing list you should be! Write to PO BOX 487, Bradford, BD2 4YU, UK. You'll get details of many of the great distros the UK has to offer as well as info on other events. The mailout is in constant need of stamps and A5 envelopes. Donations are welcome at the same address.

The next hardcore festival at the 1in12 is July 5th & 6th. I have no idea whos playing but it should be good anyway. Hope to see you there.

A couple of free bits worth mentioning...
Loserdom comes from Ireland. Its a zine/newsletter type thing. Contact Anto: 35 Mapas Rd, Dalkey, Co. Dublin, Ireland.
Necro News is packed with news & reviews: Spike, 13 Kingsway, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 2EJ, UK
Toxic Stress is a really good newsletter: Ade, 97 Cameron Rd, Normanton, Derby, DE23 8RT, UK
Ripping Thrash 10.5 is done by Steve. Write to his zine address!
There are plenty of others so get writing and get involved!

Sned of Flat Earth fame has opened a shop at the 1in12. Its open Thurs/Fri/Sat 12 til 3 in the cafe. Selling Records, Books, Zines, T-shirts & more. If your in the area go check it out.



Heres some news I've been told but be warned this is mostly hear say. So some of it may not happen. Apart from the Chopper tour cos that as already happened - Silly buggers!

A little bird from the Chopper camp told me their tour in Japan went down better than Divine Brown on Hugh Grant - ha, I've been wanting to use that in a review for ages. On to S.D. records. Hopefully this year they should be releasing records by Down By Law, Travis Cut, and a comp. CD. But like always things can and normally change. So best to just wait and see if they become reality, as always keep an eye out for the next issue of Suspect Device zine, its always a guaranteed read. Talking of zines a new issue of No Barcodes Necessary should be on the streets as we speak. Don't ask me whats in it as Mel forgot to tell. Come on Mel get yer act together - ha, only joking. Marv from Boston in Lincs as told me he's putting out Boston's first zine and that should be out now. I think everyone in Boston as had something to do with it. Oh yeah, it goes under the name of "Gadgienymphcore" now what the fuck is that about? I can't say it never mind understand its meaning. I've saved the best piece of news till last. Word as it that them loverble anarcho types PUS have been asked to back up - wait for it now.. "PRODIGY" - yep, I'm not taking the piss its true, I just hope it comes off, while I'm on with PUS why not send off for their Life In Fear ep. Its pretty cool. Right thats it from me. I think I've done enough to get my name in the hall of fame. Oh yeah, don't be an ass. If yer see any Leadbelly flyers then write to them. If yer see us at a gig then talk to us. We'll have 6 trax on a comp. CD soon so write to me for more details. Right over and out. KEEF.

p.s. Chopper are releasing a split ep with some band from Japan. I think their called Blue but I'm not sure. Also some Japanese bands should be touring here later in the year. Toodle pip for now!

I've had a great response so far for my request for stuff on Crass. I still need more. If you have anything at all please send a copy to go towards the article I'm trying to write. Thanks!

If at all possible I want to put out a 7" this year. I'm not too sure how or what I want to do but if it works I'll be the happiest chap on the planet. If you have any advice or if you want to be considered for a release then PLEASE write. I love getting mail and want to hear from evreyone and anyone. Oh yeah, I should also have a new spoken word tape out very soon. I'm not too sure on details yet but it looks like a 60 minute affair. Again write for details.

## Charlies Family Crisis

Mid-Glamorgans self-proclaimed premiere hardcore band. They originally began in 93 under the name 'Cause for concern'. Influenced by the likes of Discharge, Fugazi, NOFX and Operation Ivy, the band got tired of being asked 'are you straightedge?' In 1994 they changed the name to CHARLIES FAMILY CRISIS. The end of an era that spawned a demo ("WHY?" from august 93), and a reputation for wild on-stage antics. Antics which got them banned from numerous venues for being 'too loud, too hard and too naked.'

June 1994 saw the "Family Life" demo and a support slot with ALICE DONUT. The band were featured in HEARTATTACK and MRR.

A year off and the band were back doing gigs in their own unique style. The LAGWAGON show at Newport's TJs made history as they became the first support band at the venue to be asked back for an encore! Record company interest led to a recording session which (due to a last minute gig request) was knocked down to an hour. The band have just contributed to the "Create - from beyond" LP on 'IN YER FACE RECORDS' Whats next? Who knows.

c/o Ginger Elvis Management, 45 Shakespeare Avenue, Cefn Glas, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, CF31 4RY, S. WALES

## VANILLA POD

Formed in February 95 VANILLA POD played constantly in the Norfolk and Cambridge area. April saw the band decide that a demo was the way to world domination. Recorded in Wisbech the 4 track tape saw the only recording with singer Paul Davis. In August 95 Paul left on good terms and auditions were held for a replacement. Rob (the present vocalist) was recruited in September. The new recruit fired the bands enthusiasm and they went on to play with the likes of Telstar Ponies and Goober Patrol.

Late December of that year saw Vanilla Pod decide that they needed some new recorded material. The new 6 track tape caught the band as they were. The band then continued and a 7" in the form of REBOUND was recorded on Offshoot. VANILLA POD play up tempo pop punk for the masses.

VANILLA POD, c/o Offshoot Records, PO BOX 550, Norwich, NR1 1QD

## HEADS APART

HEADS APART feature ex members of ENGLISH DOGS. They formed in 1994 with the emphasis on excitement. Their set consists of mostly 2 minute long songs. As with all the other underground bands HEADS APART decided not to go through the torture of trying to get signed. Rather, they recorded an album. Recorded in 5 days in August 95 the CD only release features 15 tracks.

HEADS APART have already recorded material for a new LP and can be reached at: HEADSAPART, c/o publicity, 46 vere road, Peterborough, Cambs. PE1 3EA.

# POETRY

## By John Binns

14 SILVER ROYD CLOSE, WORTLEY, LEEDS, LS12 4QZ, UK

### TURN YOUR PAGES CAREFULLY

It is a whole new ballgame
Which does not come to the lame
Or the faint of heart,
So although we are far-apart
Let us make a start,
But promises given
When you are riven
Will tend to go astray
So be careful today
What promises you give,
Best learn how to live
In easy stages
And turn your pages
Carefully,
Until you can see.

### WHAT ABOUT ME?

Well it has been raining,
But I am not feigning,
No I am for real,
But the way I feel
Is not so good,
And I am sweating blood
Or so to speak,
And I could shriek
With frustration,
So what happened to
The old plantation?
Did all the slaves go
free?
Well what about me?
When will I see

### A FINGER WHICH IS DEFT

Off to the left
Of the warp and the weft
Is a finger which is deft,
So my load I will heft.

ALL MASKED_UP_AND READY FOR AC

# SPANISH SCENE REPORT

Hi everybody out there!!! This is supposed to be a spanish "scene report", but I don't believe anymore in what is known as "hardcore scene", I'll try to explain what are the individuals around here which I think they're doing something worthy to be known outside Spain. It will be mainly focused on the musical side of the political action. Please take note that around here there's a big anti-army movement called "insumision", which are the people who refuse to join the compulsary military service and refuse also doing the social service for considering it an excuse that's not going to solve the real problem at all; which is ending with every army, every war, every power, the biggest problem is the government itself!!! Many people involved in punk is insumisa and we have to face jail for it, and other social sanctions as well. Also there's a big (and always increasing) animal liberation movement, with many vegetarians, vegans and even some people who base their way of eating only in raw vegetables, fruits / dried fruits. Well, in the insumision movement, as well as the veggie movement and other non-musical networks (anti-fascism, anti-sexism, anarchism etc), there are many people involved who don't ever give a listening to hardcore. And there are hardcore people who don't mind social problems neither, but thats not very common related to the DIY/NON-PROFIT network, which is really socially aware, and which is the one I'm gonna introduce for you along these words. The important thing is working all together : if you enjoy playing music you can make a benefit gig or tape for a social cause, and a political collective can enjoy with your participation at a demonstration where you and your band gather together and give support to the cause, and even can distribute some of your releases in a social center or squat. I know perfectly that there are many people who is too shy or not enough motivated to get active in social actions, but who are really supportive deep in heart and would enjoy co-operating with each otherdoing what they really feel, which could be music, fanzines, distributing/releasing stuff, anything, anyway, anytime... Ok, lets go:

SISTERS & BROTHERS: Is a monthly free newsletter done by Carol, a girl from my town (Xixon). It contains 4 A5 pages full of news, reviews and contacts from all over the DIY hcpunk worldwide network. Written in Spanish and waiting for your news to release. You can contact thru my own address as we share a pobox (at the end of the report).

UNIDAD: Is an extensive newsletter with 4 A3 pages containing lots of contacts, news and reviews from everywhere, but mainly focused on the Spanish and South American network. The only bad point I noticed here is that they include some stuff that might not be so alternative and worthy of support. But nontheless the effort is worth your support. Its free and the run is of several thousand samples! (J.I.H.A., po box 41019, 28080 madrid).

HO FEM NOSALTRES: Is a new distro and tape label focused only on non-profit, DIY stuff. Is run by an active young guy who seems to be really ok. He can also help you with distribution around his area, sometimes releasing a mailorder list. (Aleix Merchan, po box 40, El Vendrell 43700, tarragona).

IDIOTIZACION COLECTIVA: Distributes diy stuff around Sevilla, sending also some mailorder lists to other points in Spain. They are a boy and a girl who released also their own zinecalled "MIRA TU INTERIOR", which first issue is out now, focused on "the personal is the political" way, but including some political and anti-sexist things too. Its written in Spanish. Really active people. (Isabel Martin, avda. Pino montano 18-1oB, 41008 Sevilla).

PARANOISE: Is a zine which started as a small newsletter and grew progressivley up to the size of a zine. Its one of my faves in the Spanish scene. Last issue was a double one (5+6) with lots of news, contacts, reviews and he includes interviews also. Usually theres an English page enclosed for all of you outta there, but the other is full written in Spanish. Paranoise is really cheap and release new issues in short time periods. Also wanting to distribute stuff and doing a DIY tape label. (Daniel Navarro, po box 623, 14080 Cordoba).

NO FEAR: Is a new "Personal=Political" zine edited by a guy who released some other zines previously. This is smaller but more focused into thoughts/expression/feelings. Including some political bands too. Its written in Spanish and he's trying to set up a distro/prod. (Alejandro Sanchez, c/alonso cano 4B-2oB, 11010 cadiz).

MASACRE: Its a zine from Madrid which third issue is out, totally in Spanish and devoted mainly to Spanish hcpunkgrind bands. Its always a huge issue. Also trying to run a zines/literature only distro called "LIBERA TU MENTE/FREE YOUR MIND", mailorder list available. Publications in Spanish and English (Blas, po box 47062, 28080 madrid).

NO HOPE: Is a little newsletter written in Spanish. The usual stuff such as reviews, news, contacts, etc. Good effort nevertheless!!! (Daniel Cortes, c/euskal herria 12-2-3oB, 20400 ibarra, guipuzkoa).

CRUDA REALIDAD: Is a diy/non-profit collective devoted to hcpunk and animal liberation above all (squatting and anarchism too). They have set up a distro, a diy tapes label, release a newsletter full of contacts, etc. Really active people worth your support. (OML, po box 50035, 46080 valencia).

LOVE & FLOWERS: Its one of my favourite zines, focused on intelligent hcpunk bands and personal/political articles. Two issues out and the 3rd is coming, which will be entirely devoted to punk parents. Its written in Spanish and it is from xixon, but Fidel (the editor) doesn't want to print his address because he prefers to contact personally, a good zine.

CONOCIMIENTO FINAL: Is a hcpunk "personal=political" collective whose members release zines, set up gigs/tours, run a distro, etc. They release mailorder lists and are vegans. Its an "essential" contact in Spain. One of them run a zine called "SIMBIOSIS EN LA ABSTRACCION" which second issue is a split one with other two new madrids zines. Its really good

D.G.K: Is a good distro from the south. They are involved in some political activities there too. Wilo releases a zine called "Grima HC", which is one of the best from all over the country. In Spanish. A necessary contact. (DGK, pobox 2530, 11080 cadiz).

mAnIfEsTo: Is a political hardcoremetal band from bracelona which released a good tape last year and now their debut 7" is soon expected! They sing in Spanish lyrics inspired by manliftingbanner and music inspired by Earth Crisis. Of course they have nothing to do with the attitude, just a refernce for their musical style. (b.c.m, pobox 601, 08913 badalona, barcelona).

CARRY OUT: Is a band with some ex-24 ideas members, and manifesto members. Released a tape last year. Really non-profit and diy (though pro-copied tape) really worth your support. Political and funny metalcore singing in English, with negative approach and nations on fire covers. (Same address as UPRISING).

I.A.F: Is one of the best Spanish bands for my taste. They play crustcorepunk sung in spanish remembering old Swedish bands. They have released some tapes and a split 7" with the brazilian band UnderThreat, through Crust records (u$a). Really good band! (abel bellido, pobox 190, 08921 sta.coloma, barcelona).

T.D.T: Is a collective commited to release tapes and distribute stuff. Their tapes contain DIY grind/noise/core bands from all over the world. They also play in one of the most known grindcore bands from Spain: VIOLENT HEADACHE, releasing several tapes and split 7"s (with Agothocles, Intestinal Disease, Positi Caustico, etc). A good and funny contact too! (t.d.t, po box 21039, 08080 barcelona).

E-150: Its a good crustpunk band with members of other hc combos from barcelona previously related. They sing well thought lyrix in Spanish. Cool people too! (j.l.d.l, pobox 609, 08914 badalona, barcelona).

J6: An explosive band which have released a pro-cassette mixing metal, hardcore, rap, rave, ambient, trance, whatever, anything! Two furious vocalists and crazyness all the way. They are really good musicians and the sound/artwork quality is excellent. A good point, above all done, with contraversial stuff on it. Totally in Spanish. (Conocimiento final, po box 28041, 28080, madrid).

DISTRO DIFUSSIO: Is the own distro of the Banyoles squatt, a beautiful place where theres lots of political and musical activities. One of the last was an anti-Shell weekend with many things related to the subject. The distro is run by the squatters and is worth your support. You can contact with the squat itself. (Ateneu alternatiu, c/girona 87, 17820 banyoles, girona).

M.R.H.C: Is one of the best distro/prods label around Spain. They release a mailorder list with lots of stuff from all over the world (anything but CDs). They have released some diy tapes with booklet in Spanish/English, with commited bands. Some of the members release a zine called "MUGARIK GABE" whose 7th issue is out now, containing mostly political, well thought out articles. Everything in Spanish. (Javi, po box 551, 48080 bilbao).

A.L.L.E.N: The squat from Mallorca is full of political activities. They have also a distro there, and lately they have released an anti-fur sticker. They are really active and seem to be honest people. (Allen, po box 1566, 07080, mallorca).

OBNI: This is a hardcorepunkcrust band from Barcelona, with members of other bands. In late 1995 they released a cassette called "for you money is power". Fun and power all the way. Singing in English and including Heresy, Disrupt, Doom & Chaos UK covers! (j.m.a, po box 395, 08080 Barcelona).

UPRISING: Is the new name for the former band known as Discrust; and Infest/Dropdead mix with members from Violent Headache and IAF. They are really funny livewise! (Robert, c/Generalitat 52, 08840 Viladecans, Barcelona).

POCION DE RATA: Is a collective commited to diy hcpunk releasing a zine in Spanish, pamphlets , doing political activities, etc. (Dudo, pobox 54, 29600 marbella, malaga).

P.D.O: Is a diy distro/prods. label, releasing a mailorder list, releasing a zine in spanish called "Rebuzno de ignorancia", and several activities around their area. Really good people! (Enrique, pobox 159, 28300 aranjuez, madrid).

D.K.V: Is one of the most funny zines you can read. A pity it is in Spanish. Its members are involved in a squat setting up gigs, and doing more alternative actions. They are running also their own distro called "Insurgencia". Also playing in their funny "Macho-emocore" joke? band called Verano Vegano (vegan summer). One of the funniest and honest Spanish contacts (they draw really cool!). (Urbano Blanco, pobox 314, 34080 palencia).

ZIZANA: Is ananarchist collective whose members are doing lots of political activities, and also releasing an excellent political zine called simply "Zizana". Last issue came out in April with a condom for free. They also distribute diy stuff and have just released a cassette format of the Crude SS cd released thru "lost & found" records. They are anti-cd by the way. (s.s.s, pobox 400, 26080 logrono, la rioja).considering that htey are immersed in the diy/alternative ethics. (Same contact than E-150).

MALA RAZA: Its an anarchist distro/collective and also a record label which have released LPs from Sin Dios, El Corazon Del Sapo, Tarzan, etc. They are actively involved into squatting and many political activities too. Once they released a big and excellent zine with the same name than the collective, but never did another issue since three years ago. Cool people! (m.r, pobox 6087, 50080 zaragoza).

VICTIMAS DEL PROGRESO: Maybe the most known and better record label from Spain. The guy who runs it set up Fobia records many years ago, but hes totally into his "new" label. Hes totally diy/non-profit, and have released bands such as One by one, Strangis Guajes, etc. Also running a big distro service and coordinating the Spanish AFA. Vegan activities too. Ultrarecommendable! (angel andres, pobox 24037, 28080 madrid).

FREAK SHOW: Is one of the most known bands outta here. They play old school hardcorepunk in the vein of minor threat, singing in English. Appearing in lots of comps. they have released some pro-tapes and recently a 7" out in perkoro records (from Germany). The drummer runs his own distro/label called "SOUR GRAPES". A good contact nevertheless!!! (Daniel ferrero, pobox 506, 29640 fuengirola, malaga).

ESCUELA DE ODIO: A band from my area (la felguera), started as a really influenced band by one of my ex-bands (Intolerance). Furious vocals in Spanish, Political lyrics and a (everytime more) metalized sound. Recently a 7". (e.d.o, pobox 195, 33930 la felguera, asturies).

OUTCRY: A post-straightedge band from my area. Some member I don't talk to, but other (like the drummer) deserve much respect as he's a real thoughtful and honest person. They play cool metalized hardcore sung in English. Previously they call themselves 2nd hand, and sung in Spanish. Guess they won't take too much in recording something. Contact the drummer at (pablo huerres, c/campomanes 9-2oE, 33008 oviedo).

R-EVOLUCION POSITIVA: Is a new zine written in Spanish, and the people who run it are inmersed into the diy activities (distro, setting up actions etc). They run a social center in their town. (ramon blanco, c/s. lucas 53, 06800 merida, badajoz).

MURZIA TROPIKAL: Is a distro from the south. Some of their members run some years ago a zine called "full", but now Diego seems to concentrate in the distro only. (diego aldasoro gomez, c/jorge manrique 1-4oE, 30011 murcia).

P.L.A: Is a collective run by great folx! Immersed in in animal liberation, squatting, setting up gigs in squats and also distributing stuff. Contact them. (andres moreno, pobox 864, 15080 la coruna).

EL PIOLET DE TROTSKY: Is a zine from Madrid done by 4 guys, each one with his own contributions, so I'm speaking about a varied zine, from the most commercial side of punk (epitaph likewise bands, indie bands) to the most alternative and DIY ones. You can see the evolution towards a most diy way each issue. Which I think its a must. Fifth issue is on the works. (luis martin, c/rio jarama 10, 28529 rivas, madrid).

POZOIN BANAKETAK: Is a basquian distro/label formed up by many different people inside the varied alternative spectrum. Its a bit like "el piolet de trotsky" zine afore mentioned, because you can find the most commercial band to the most diy ones. They recently have released their first record, which is an lp/cd from a basquian band called Munsterland. A melodicore combo singing in Spanish. The band/label is not the most political you can find here, but the maximum price (low) is marked in the cover and the record will be distributed through alternative channels also. Of course there are people inside this big collective that are more "like us", hope you know what I mean. (pozoin banaketak, posta kutxa153, 01400 llodio, Alava).

REVOLUCION COTIDIANA: Is the band from the "ANTITOXIC" collective. Under this name they re lease a zine which every issue is devoted to an only cause. The last two ones were about capitalism and vegetarianism. Each one served as a booklet (and more things inside) of two compilation pro-tapes completely devoted to these specific subjects. Worth checking out! (antitoxic, pobox 1648, 48080 bilbao).

ULTIMO REDUCTO: Its a new zine immersed into anarchoveganism, with only po-

## SPAIN

litical and thoughtful articles, really indeep and well written. Its a pity for you that its only in Spanish! The editor is a member also of the anti-cars collective. (jesus martinez, pobox 640, 48080 bilbao).

HHH/OVERTHROW/ROUSE: These are 3 bands formed with the HHH members. Guess the mythical HHH is well known by all of you. Overthrow is more metal oriented, and rouse is focused in melodic and fasta hardcore. The 3 bands have several records out. Not too active likewise but still existing if you are interested. (joan coll, pobox 16, 17080 girona).

T.S.R: Is a good only-pro-tape label located in the basque country, which released some years ago several comp. tapes such as s.o.s.eeuuropa 92 or vox populi. Both tapes contained several bands from all over the world including unreleased trax here. Their last release is out just now, in collaboration with m.r.h.c, and is called "the core of sweden 81-96. A comp. tape devoted to raw swedish hcpunk bands since 15 years on to now. Not unreleased trax every one of them, but a really mythical document!!! (jose carlos, pobox 304, 48080 bilbao).

GRITO DE ODIO: Is a grindcore band which released a pro-tape two years ago and now are preparing their first full length lp. One of their members run also a good distro/label called "POSITIVE NOISE". Hes actually imprisoned for being an insumiso, but you can contact him without any problem (gonzalo valle, avda. palfuriana 67, 43880 coma-ruga, tarragona).

and I left for the last my own activities which are:

DON'T BELONG: Which is my distro/label so I'll try to be honest, and not putting any personal opinion into this mini-article, ok? We distribute stuff from all over the world (vinyls, zines -english also-, tapes, stickers, t-shirts, books... anything but CDs). We release a monthly mailorder distro list in English/Spanish which is sent for free to more than 200 contacts all in Spain and some parts of europe. You can get your free copy simply writing me. All the profits are invested in buying the stamps and doing the copies of the list. So cooperate. We also sell at gigs. Every month or 2 months we release a diy tape whos profits are all invested in the list too. Up to now we have released bands like Disaffect, G-Anx, Totalitar, Selfish, One by one, Mass Slaughter (our own band), Discharge and a couple of compilations. Every one comes with a booklet containing the lyrix translated to Spanish and some of that stuff is not available anymore, anywhere. We also distribute books focused mainly in animal liberation, veganism, body cares, hygienism, raw foods, etc. All in Spanish till now. We are in the process of translating some English and american likewise books into Spanish. Also we have "co-released" our first 7"ep, which is the second and last 7" of the anarcho belgium band ZERO POSITIVES. We took the responsibility of distributing 500 copies, and included inside an Spanish translation of the excellent lyrics/thoughts/explanations. Just check it out. Distributors needed. Please get in touch. Don't belong are 2 guys who are anarchists, vegans and punks! Running also some animal liberation collectives (A.L.A, and Xtremo Anarcovegano). Among other things we also release our own zines: Modestos one is called "ASILO" with 3 issues out, in Spanish, focused on the "Personal is the political", really deep thoughts/feelings here, but also politics, health and anarchist writings. The fourth issue will be a large one devoted to body cares and health, with a big pole among the readers about drugs. Mine is called "ANTIPODER" whose 6th issue came out in April, devoted to record labels, with the previous 5 issues full of anarchopunk and non-musical stuff. The 7th issue is expected after the summer 96 and will be released on a print run of 500/600 samples (former ones reached around 300 copies). Its also in Spanish. Oh, better quit here to talking about us since this seems to be an egotrip. Just tell you sincerely and honestly that we wish to help you around here however we are able to do it, and expacting the same with you in your country, do you dare? Interested in mutual support?? Write at once and you won't be ripped off!!! Uge. May 1996. Xixon. Spain. (m.g.s, pobox 8035, 33280 xixon).

p.s. I know perfectly that there are a bunch of bands, labels, distros, zines and collectives not mentioned here worth your support, but this is really a hard task for me and a complete disorder with so many flyers and addresses floating in my mind. Sorry to those who ain't here deserving a place, but its not my desire to forget you, it is just my mind has got a limit, and I reached it right now. Stop! piiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii... coma.

WHY DISTRO
Just write for a rapidly expanding list of LPs, 7"s, Tapes, Zines & more...
SAE FOR LIST
WHY, PO BOX 53, SELBY,
NORTH YORKSHIRE, YO8 9YZ, UK

I've been writing to Mel Hughes for probably just over a year now. He always has something interesting to say both in his letters and the zine he edits (No Barcodes Necessary). I decided to interview him about the zine, the distro and his opinions. Here is what he had to say...

# NO BARCODES NECESSARY!

**WHY:** How long have you been involved in the hardcore scene?

**MEL:** I got into punk in 1984.

**WHY:** Can you tell us a bit about why & how you became involved.

**MEL:** To be honest I think it was an accident and I didn't even think I'd be still into it at this stage in my life. But it was a period in my life that most things didn't make sense, looking around me and listening to what was going on at the time just felt different to those around me. I was into heavy metal and just didn't see the point in all that anymore. My brother had some Dead Kennedys, Exploited and Pistols stuff, so I got into that and thought to myself - 'I'll be a punk as no-one else was one.' I think this had to do with thinking those around me just wanted different things to what I wanted. I was searching for something, but didn't really know what it was. A couple of Mod friends who lived in the same estate as me, but went to a different school in a different town knew another punk guy and got stuff taped for me. I became good friends with this other guy. I found out about intelligent punk/H/C bands, zines, distros and the common bond that all these things held. Plus all these ideas that the scene was promoting, I realised that this was what I was looking for. I felt so at home with it all, I just decided to devote my life to it.

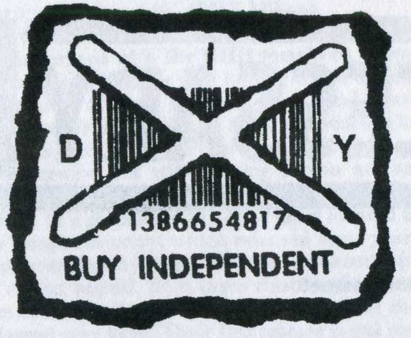
**WHY:** Your zine is called No Barcodes Necessary. You put anti-barcode messages on everything you put out. What is it you have against these small unobtrusive squares?

**THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN MUSIC.**

**MEL:** Barcodes equal consumerism. They were created to help the transaction between producer and buyer to become quicker. Harcore/punk is the complete opposite to blatent consumerism. To me it is a passion for something you believe in, doing it for yourself and helping (without competition) those who think the same way or similar to yourself. Apart from the great music, lyrics, ideas etc, record covers always had great provoking artwork that kinda wrapped everything up. Those little squares look so ugly stuck on the artwork. I called the zine N.B.N as a reaction to too many labels putting these on. Its only shops that need them. I believe in the underground DIY distros. I have nothing against shops at all because some kid somewhere will pick up a H/C record and could be introduced to all these ideas just like I and countless others more.

**WHY:** Your zine seems to have a very positive message. I get a strong feeling of unity when I read it. Was it an aim to put that across? Do you feel that the underground is perhaps losing it a bit?

**MEL:** Well John thats always inspired me in the early HC days, helping each other. Although I live for today, I still want to keep the original HC ideals alive and in action today. They had such an impact on me, I just want to keep the flame alive. I have always been into all scenes and never just stuck a label onto what I was into. I can't understand why gigs have all the same type of bands on the same bill. I would love to go to gigs where you'd get a sXe band, playing with some @narcho band, playing with a pop punk band, playing with an emo band, playing with whatever label some band has. So I want more of that. Yeah. I believe in the POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE. Like most people/ bands etc. are forgetting we are all in this together, so why the fuck do we have all these little groups? WISE THE FUCK UP!! Come on people, lets do this together. Maybe we have already lost it John! I hope not, I'm optimistic and as long as I have the energy I shall keep at trying to break the walls.



WHY: The zine seems to cover a lot more than just the music aspect of what goes on. What with zine editors and screen printing making an appearance. What would you say to people who say that music is the be all end all?

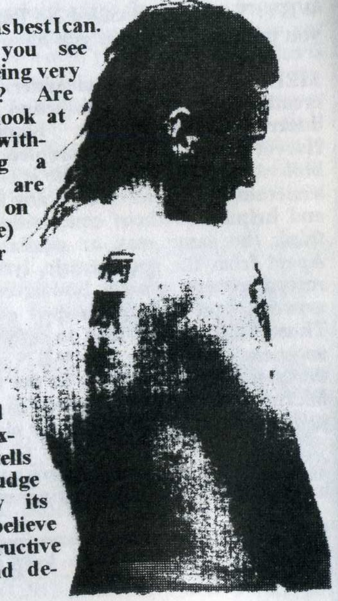
MEL: Although I love the music and feel its important, theres more to it than just music. Now, I'm not saying we should forget about the music, and I think bands should continue to strive for good interesting tunes. What's the point in having the coolest lyrics in the world if your music is boring and shit. Its like I mentioned in question 4, I want to bring as many varied things into my zine. In future issues I won't be sticking to a particular musical scene and won't just be sticking solely to bands. From the first time I picked up a zine I have loved them. The ability to create something you want on your own terms is just brilliant. I shall always support zine editors in my zine (I shall mention more about this later). I just wish people wouldn't be so stuck on bands, like theres other things out there and the HC/Punk scene is more than music. Its a community of people who believe in something and want change.

WHY: Why did you decide to put your ideas into a zine and not form a band or use any other form of communication?

MEL: I find it easier to write my thoughts down rather than anything else. I am one of those people who are better at writing letters than actually saying the things. But I also love zines and what you can do with them. I love the printed word and its cool to read zines from all around the world, from all different backgrounds, irrespective of someones gender or whatever, having similar ideas to yourself. I had a band in 87/88 called DE@DHE@D and I was the vocalist. We were a fast noisecore band and played once in Belfast, in the practise room of the original warzone centre. The band split up due to differences in musical direction. I wanted a Heresy, Uniform Choice, Larm type band and the guitarist wanted a Hellbastard, Carcass, general earache sound at that time which I didn't like at all. So we just give up. I would like to form a band but theres no-one around here to do one with. But also the band I would like to sing for would be full of provoking ideas and I would welcome a lot of audience participation, with questions and all that. But due to being a bit deaf that wouldn't be able to happen as I wouldn't be able to make out what they would be saying. So that would be frustrating for me. So I can't do that. But I do think zines are undervalued, so I'm zine positive and will promote this form of expression as best I can.

WHY: Do you see yourself as being very open-minded? Are you able to look at others views without forming a bias. What are you opinions on (for example) abortion or drinking?

MEL: I like to think of myself as being very open-minded and lifes experience tells you not to judge a book by its cover. I do believe in constructive critisism and debate. I'm always open to other peoples views and opinions. I may not always agree with them, but I respect them for their choice. The only time I don't respect a person for their views is when they force them on someone and hurt people because of their narrow minded attitude. Is their a right and wrong answer to abortion? When it comes down to reality its going to be left down to the girl who is pregnant, and whether the desision is right or wrong for her. This aside I do wish people would fucking wise up. I think making love, sex or whatever is cool and I am pro sex. But why oh whay can't people have safe sex. Any guy out there who refuses to wear a condom if the person your going to have sex with wants you to is a prick. People are just so irresponsible. Sex is serious business, its fun too but it can wreck peoples lives. I don't think abortion as a form of contraception is on. OK, you can get contraception everywhere. Also AIDS is still there, so don't forget that.



# DO PEOPLE CARE AT ALL?

As far as drinking is concerned, I don't have any problems at all. I don't see a person in the light of whether they drink or not. I don't think others should also. I don't form an opinion of anyone until I actually talk to them and find out what they are really like.

WHY: In #2 of your zine you wrote an article on the 'situation' in Northern Ireland. Coming from there you have a better understanding of whats going on than most people reading this. Can you see a solution?

MEL: I can't really see a solution this is due to intolerant bigoted politicians and their sheep who keep the circus rolling. They have their power and their egos won't let them give it up, so they are catering for what certain people want to hear so they get their votes and keep their cushy jobs. At the time of the IRAs ceasefire, police and those with security jobs were complaining that they would lose overtime and their jobs. They didn't care about the ceasefire , it was just their selfish selves. More money is spent in N. Ireland on security rather than anything else. Like the rest of the UK, education, hospitals and other needy things suffer: Because of religious ghettos, people are ignorant of people who are just exactly the same as themselves due to going to a different church. Quite silly really. I just hope that the young people growing up in NI today don't fall into the bigoted religious trap and want something different. I don't subscribe to any of this stuff and so do others, our voice is tomorrows hope. In other words. I'M FOR PEACE.

WHY: Theres a very anti-consumer feeling to everything you do. Is that a backlash to the way society is run in general. Or is it more to do with the way you used to look at life?

MEL: This could tie in with the barcodes, like that the whole H/C scene spawned as a rejection to the mindless music bizz where money and profit are number one. I really hate this shop to you drop society that we live in. Most people just do nothing else, buy, buy, buy. When their life is shitty they buy something to cheer themselves up. Most of society is just like this. The H/C scene has always meant more to me than this. I lead quite a simple life, I don't have much money (like most people i'm sure) to spend on rubbish, and I think people should take a step back and think 'do I really need this.'

WHY: sXe seems very high on the agenda. Why do you feel this way of life needs promoting? Most people seem to know enough about it to make the choice anyway.

MEL: Its not really that high on my agenda. I think thats just the way the zine turned out because I mainly like sXe bands music. But I do think the young people need to know that theres a choice out there. Growing up theres a lot of peer pressure to smoke, drink etc. Years ago it used to be a fag behind the bike shed, nowadays its a joint behind the bike shed. I'm no saint, I started drinking when I was 13. But when I was growing up and a crowd were drinking and someone didn't want to the others would laugh at them or call them names. I always had to tell them to wise up - if he doesn't want to drink he doesn't have to. But thats not always the case. We are constantly bombarded with ads on how cool we'll be if we drink this or smoke that. This is bullshit. Also drink causes a lot of trouble, anyway I quit drinking because I just didn't enjoy it anymore and used to drink way too much and I basically just wanted to take control of my life again. I'm not one of your typical sXe people where its if you drink your an asshole. Anyway most sXe'rs are not like that. You're right, most people seem to know enough. But a lot of people drink because they are bored or whatever. Maybe they should channel their energy and money into something worthwhile rather than moaning how crap everything is. I can't abide armchair critics moaning and doing fuck all. But as I said, I want people to know there's something out there rather than just getting pissed all the time.

WHY: How much of what you put in your articles is fact and how much is opinion?

MEL: Probably a bit of both. I try to be as factual as possible.

WHY: Don't you feel that hardcore in general has gone as far as it can creatively?Should people be looking further than just copying whats gone before?

MEL: I don't think so at all. Theres a lot more people out there who are doing more than just copying. How far and original a person goes is up to them. I do think people have more potential than they realise. What do you think? Where do you think poeple should be looking?

WHY: As well as the zine you run a distro and you've put out a comp. tape. Which do you feel is the most value to you and to the 'scene' in general?

MEL: The zine maybe because its part of me, my baby that I've created. How it develops, grows and where it goes is solely up to me. Though I'm not too sure how much value to the scene it is because I don't get that much response personally. I've seen some good reviews, so obviously some people like it. I haven't a clue about the distro because it seems very dead because I hardly get any orders, despite putting out 1000s of flyers. I'm in two minds about it really. I may stop doing it because I don't much see the point in having a room full of unwanted zines, records, cds etc. I've decided that if it doesn't improve drastically by September 1997 I'll quit. Like in the September AWA mailout, I sent over 500 flyers and got 3 orders! Now that doesn't give me much incentive to get new stuff in does it. I do feel very bad about this because I want to help people as much as I can. Same goes with the comp. tape. I put out 1000s of flyers and got about half a dozen bands writing in. This apathy drags me down and I wonder why I bother. So I may just concentrate on the zine. We'll have to see how 1997 goes.

WHY: How did you decide to do a benefit for the AWA mailout? Were there any other causes you considered and if so why did you reject them.

MEL: I decided to do a benefit for the AWA mailout as I could see something really positive and something that was happening. So I wanted to support it as best I could. To date I've sold a measly 30 copies and made £15 which I sent to Richard. Do people care at all? I don't think so. I do want to thank those who did buy it and those bands on it. The AWA mailout was my first choice. I am working on the next one, which is a benefit for the Anarchist Black Cross in London. So if any bands want to donate a track, send it in. It doesn't matter if you are new or well known.

WHY: The distro started off as zines only. You seem to be shifting the emphasis a bit and concentrating on bootlegs. Was this a consious decision?

MEL: No, i'm not shifting the emphasis at all on bootlegs. The zines are still my main priority.

**I DON'T THINK SO.**

WHY: Don't you see bootlegs as counter-productive? Surely they take money from the bands rather than giving them more airplay?

MEL: I was going to mention this in the last question, but as this question carries on with the same topic, I'll do it here. I just basically issued my tape lists to raise money to get my zine printed, I couldn't think of any other way to raise it and I just don't want to stop the zine because I have no money. This is just tapes I've collected over 10 years or more and rather than just bootleggers they were never collected to make money. Just for my personal enjoyment. Bootleggers record live gigs, solely to make money, this is where we differ. These tapes are not making much per tape and I'm not ripping the buyers off as the tapes are quite cheap. You sell live tapes too, what do you think?

WHY: Do you see punk / hardcore as freedom of expression?

MEL: Yes, considering all the stuff that people come across in it. Some of the stuff I've read you wouldn't ever see in mainstream magazines. Anyone from bands to zine editors can say what they want and get away with it.

WHY: Do you think people like GG Allin have any value in that scene, considering they take freedom of expression to the furthest point they can?

MEL: I think he was a total wanker, nothing more than a novelty. Sure he was pretty extreme in what he did, but I'm sure most strip joints you could get some women masturbating to the captivated audience. But GG was nothing more than the cartoon punk idiot you get portrayed in stupid TV programs where the makers havn't a clue what punk is. GG was nothing more than hype. He talked shit and ate it. I was never interested in him at all. I got a video of him, just to see what the hype was all about and the audience seem as pathetic as what he was. The saddest thing of it all is his brother must be making a fortune out of GG. Maybe he'll open the GG version of graceland, now that would make sense.

WHY: Would you consider yourself to be a fluffy? Do you think others would consider you as a fluffy?

MEL: Haven't a clue mate, as I don't know what you mean by fluffy.

WHY: Please list the top 5 things you feel most strogly about and the reasons why.

MEL: Well in no particular order:
X I wish people would believe in themselves and the potential they have. I grew up being told what a useless waste of space I was just for being a punk. So if you are reading this and think negative about yourself, don't. Love yourself and value your self worth.
XX Educate yourself. Ignorance is stupid and definatly not punk. Life is a learning process, learn and experience as much as you can. Read and learn. We are in a better position if we know what we are talking about and can back it up. Turn off that fucking TV.
XXX Stand up for what you believe in. I admire people so much who stand up for what they believe in and I think it will give others some incentive to do the same.
XXXX I think people should be tolerant and respect others views. Life isn't black and white and not everyone is right.
XXXXX Keep on dreaming an searching. Don't take everything as face value, there's nothing more pathetic than someone without curiosity. Maybe not what you wanted. I think people should care about and respect the earth we live on.

WHY: Do you think the underground scene has any value to society in general?

MEL: I do think instead of dropping out of society we should do something. Interact and talk to people about our ideas. Well as we can see with what is happening music wise, H/C is nothing but a trend and a quick buck to be made.

WHY: What is the next stage in your 5 point plan to world domination?

MEL: Just to keep at it and try and improve on everything I do. Keeping everything with the DIY scene is very important to me. Fuck the businessmen, I want @narchy and peace.

WHY: Any last comments/rants/plugs etc...

MEL: Thanks a lot John for taking the interest in me. Much appreciated and I'm totally honoured to grace the pages of your swell zine. Issue 4 of my zine is out now with Capability Green, Rain still falls, Upright, Dan Second Nature zine and Mid (ex D.I/Spine Wrench). Also views etc. Its £1 + A4 SAE(uk), $3(Europe), $4(World). I really do want the zine to come out regularly, so I need your help. Labels, Publishers etc please send your stuff for review, I know small scale labels don't have much stuff to give out but I would really appreciate it, why give it to someone who's assigned to review it when you can send it to someone who wants it. I have ad and classified rates available, so if you want to advertise please write. These are essential because the zine will have a 1000 minimum print run. Let me know you exist so I can give exposure to you. My lists are still available so please send postage for those. I would be grateful that you could include return postage when writing as I'm so skint for the time being! Take care and believe in yourself.

**NO BARCODES NECESSARY!**

MEL HUGHES, 83 GLEBE PARK, CHANTERHILL, ENNISKILLEN, BT74 4DB, N. IRELAND

# Music Reviews

**PLASTIC HEAD**
Like early NOFX meets Cocksparrer. Straight forward hardcore. You can actually hear what they're saying. Bloody good job though as theres no lyric sheet in my copy. The cover is brill.

**ANGEL CORPSE - HAMMER OF THE GODS**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
Black metal has never really bothered me to that extent. With songs called Black Solstice and Consecration you know what to expect. Growling vocals trudging guitars, the odd solo and crap lyrics. That pretty much sums this up. The cover arts goo though but it does look a bit Black Sabbath. Not one to put on the X-Mas list really unless your a real fan of this kind of banal, inoffensive, comical metal (uh, I hope that wasn't too strong...).

**ABSCONDED - 5 YEAR PLAN**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
With a name like that its got to be a hardcore band. Quite right too. Excellent music, good lyrics and fairly weak vocals. This does show more than just the monotone you can sometimes get stuck with though. To be honest this is growing on me. Its the 3rd listen and I'm getting to like it. If your prepared to give it a chance this album could be damn fine.

**VARIOUS - THIS IS BAD TASTE, THE ULTIMATE PUNK PARTY**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
I don't know about ultimate but this is certainly a party. Satanic Surfers, Pridebowl, 88 Fingers Louise and 10Ft Pole head an all star cast in this label sampler comp. My advice is to get all your mates together, get drunk and put this on after the HI FIs LP.

**BRAINDANCE - CAN OF WORMS**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
Worth the price of admission just for the cover. Zany artwork, zany sounds and well thought out lyrics. Their footy anthem Where's all the pride gone would be at home on a Dog on a Rope release. Up tempo, fun and freaky. More please!

**VIC VACUME & THE ATTACHMENTS - ACID, POT & BEER**
**PO BOX 72673, ROSELLE, IL.60172, USA**
WHY conquors the US with the first 7" sent from that lovely country. Good humour and a lot of drugs (I suspect) went into the making of this little gem. For me the B side is one of the best things I've heard. Stoned alone being the standout track. Good time punk with a message (I'm just not sure what it is).

**VARIOUS - WHY VOL.1**
This is my first comp. tape. Features the likes of 4 Letter Word, Manfat, Dog on a rope, and The Bus Station Loonies. Not only this but it covers music as diverse as punk, harcore, goth and barroom jazz! Not for those with a closed mind. Done to raise money for the printing of this zine. £2.00ppd.

**THE VARUKERS - LIVE IN HOLLAND**
**STEP-1 MUSIC, PO BOX 21, TENTERDEN, KENT, TN30 7ZZ**
Cor! Christmas came early when this little lot landed at the post office! This label really seems to delivering the goods at the moment. This is a CD "Thank you to all the Punks and anyone else who has bought past products by the band". 16 tracks recorded back in 84. Apparently its an ultra rare recording. I'm not too bothered about that its just plain good. All the greats are here including Another Religion... and Never again. A worthy addition to anyones collection.

**VARIOUS - PUNK PATROL**
**STEP-1 MUSIC**
A veritable feast of punk n skin here. Includes the likes of Contempt, English Dogs, Capo Regime, Truth Decay and Voice of Reason. Death Burger has to be one of my favourites here along with Voice of Reasons Squat On. 18 tracks to get you jumping and it comes on bright orange vinyl (not the see through kind either)!

**OI POLLOI - TOTAL ANARCHOI**
**STEP-1 MUSIC**
Storming set comprising of one studio side and one live. The studio stuff is a compilation of some of the bands older recordings. Timeless classics include Pigs for slaughter, Boot down the door and Punx Picnic. The live side is a top notch set which includes Deeks friendly banter, great songs and lashings of vege food! If you don't have the earlier stuff then this record is for you. If you do then itsd definatly worth getting just for the live side. Ooh, and its on bright pink non-macho dancer friendly vinyl too.

**ANTI-HEROS - THATS RIGHT/ DON'T TREAD ON ME**
**STEP-1 MUSIC**
2 classics on 1 CD release. This is one of the most consistantly good bands ever. Alcoholics Anonymous, The Bomb and Disco Riot are among my favourites in this 28 track strong set. Brilliant.

**CAPO REGIME - PISSED UP PUNKS**
**STEP-1 MUSIC**
Oi Oi Oi Oi Oi! Red vinyl and great tunes make this worth getting. Spiked hair and an Old Speckled Hen label on the cover confirm your greatest suspitions. PC punk this is not. This is 100% snotcore! Fans of Peter & the Test tube babies and Cock Sparrer will love this.

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# Mus ews

**NAPALM DEATH/COALESCE - SPLIT EP**
**EARACHE**
Well, I'm sure I'm going to get a bit of shit for reviewing this but Napalm Death have always been one of my favourite bands so I don't see why I shouldn't. This is their last release with Barney who has been kicked out (WHY?). This includes 1 new song and a demo of Upward & Uninterested. Both tracks are good but hardly essential listeneing. Coalesce also serve up 2 growling tracks. More in the vein of Exit 13 though I reckon. A bit more up tempo but why not just have a Napalm Death EP?

**VARIOUS - THE BRITISH PUNKINVASION VOL.2**
**HIGH SOCIETY**
2 bands I love (Chopper & UK Subs) and 3 I've never heard (Raggity Anne, Speedurchin & Channel Stoopid). This is a sturdy if not essential compilation. I've been listening to bits of it over and over and I still don't get bored. Some of it though just had me reaching for the fast forward button. All in all worth getting just for those 2 bands I've already mentioned. Whether or not you listen to the others is really up to you.

**MONKHOUSE - THE FINAL INDIGNITY**
**REJECTED, 9 WOODLANDS Ave, DUN LAOGHAIRE, Co. DUBLIN, IRELAND**
Gravelly vocals, tueful melody and a hardcore vibe (ooh er, I could get a job at Metal Hammer using that kind of phrase), make this a very listenable release.This is a compilation of rare and pre-released stuff. Much of this was never available in this country. I think its a great idea to do CDs like this. Its a good way to get your back catalogue in one place and get it to people who don't have it at a cheap price. Thats what I think anyway. Top stuff.

**DARK TRANQUILITY - ENTER SUICIDAL ANGELS**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
A 4 track CD? What a waste! Still its good stuff. Speedy death metal with growled vocals and dare I say it melody! Yep. Its sometimes difficult to find death metal with a different angle but Plastic Head seem to be consistantly coming up with the goods.

**HI FI & THE ROADBURNERS - WINE WOMEN & SIN**
**PLASTIC HEAD**
One for all the Mojo Nixon fans in the audience. This is sheer rockabilly and its great. Music for the discerning drunkard. You've got to play this at your next punx party. I just love the title track and the saxophone ska of What the hell. I think I'll stop now and just go dance round the room a bit...

**MAJOR ACCIDENT - THE ULTIMATE HIGH**

# ZINE REVIEWS

### CRUCIFIED #3
32 LOSINGA Rd, KINGS
LYNN, NORFOLK, PE30
2DH, UK

Nicely put together 'skinzine' featuring Distortion, Youth Brigade, The Hepcats & MDM. A nice layout and an easy read. I did think maybe some of the photos were a bit big, but you can't have everything. Even includes a Distortion discography! An interesting and informative read. This costs £1 for 24 pages.

### VOYAGER #2
Phillippe Raynal, 28 RUE
CLAUDE CHAPPE,
45140 SAINT JEAN DE
LA RUELLE, FRANCE

Not sure how much this costs. Whatever it is though its sure to be a bargain. This is a compilation of scene reports from around the world. A great idea and worthy of support. Hopefully I'll be sending them a UK one soonish so send me your info!

### LOSERDOM #5
35 MAPAS Rd, DALKEY,
Co. DUBLIN, IRELAND

Interviews here with Combat Shock, Brawl, Brooder and Bull Taco. Couple that with news reviews opinions and a dodgy cartoonist and you've got everything you ever wanted in a zine. The difference is this is FREE! Yep, just send em an SAE and you'll get a copy. When you can get this for free I bet you feel silly paying for the one your reading now!

### LOSERDOM #6
Cor they don't waste much time do they! Another amazing freebie. This time interviews with Pincher Martin, Burnside, Mudhoney & Monkhouse. I can barely contain myself. Oh yeah, a great cartoon on page 1!

### RIPPING THRASH #12
No need to put an address. This is the 10 year issue. Packed full of stuff. A compilation of invited contributions from folk Steve has befriended over the years. An interesting and informative read. Features include: Flat Earth, Moonrip, Weird, For Want Of.. and some dodgy geezer from Selby! Well worth the price of admission whatever your invovment in the 'scene'. Oh and Colin, that cover should be a T-Shirt! 50p

### NO BETTER VOICE #5
PO BOX 510843,
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN,
48151-0843, USA

I got sent 3 issues at once of this fine handwritten zine. The layout is chaotic and very upbeat. Done by Lydon and a few friends this has a very personal edge to it. It contains a lot of banter at the co-editors expence which is nice. Too many zines are too matter of fact. This is a welcome break. This includes an interview with Youth in Asia as well as regular bit "When a dirty mind wanders" amongst others.

### NO BETTER VOICE #4
Wow, they have Spiderman cereal in the US. I'm moving there now! Regualar appearance from the hidden crowd picture and when a dirty mind wanders. As ever this is more of an entertaining read than I'm making it sound. Well I challenge you. Get a copy and then YOU describe it better.

### NO BETTER VOICE #3
This is the fat summer issue. Barbie as you've NEVER seen her before, a stupid crow picture and all the regular bits and pieces. Another zine that made me smile.

### BALD CACTUS #12
PO BOX HP171, LEEDS,
W. YORKS, LS6 1XX

4 Letter word, Newtown Grunts, Flag of Democracy, Bus Station Loonies, Short N' Curlies fill up this well established zine. Andy informs me that most of the bands layed out their own interviews. They've obviously seen his attempts before (he he!) Seriously folks this is a good read. Always a good deal of humour. Its even got a letters page and one of those dodgy 'recommended listening' lists. This costs 40p.

### MY GOD CAN BEAT UP YOUR GOD #2
6 MOWBRAY PLACE,
THIRSK, N. YORKS,
YO7 1RF

Aaron, Aaron, Aaron. It just gets better. The cover is by the guy that does Nosebleed. Stuff on Hare Krishnas and a weekend with Hooton 3 Car. Interviews with Ex-Cathedra, Dog on a rope, Horace Pinker and Snap-Her, (I can't believe I missed that gig!). Also includes an interesting right-on survey. Looks like p.cs out folks (your allowed to think for yourself again!). 50p

### NECRO NEWS #3
13 KINGSWAY, KINGS
LYNN, NORFOLK, PE30
2EJ

Yeah, the free newsletter deformed into a free zine. This is thicker and much better layed out than previous efforts. This has features on bands such as Demented are go and MDM. Reviews and news from bands, labels and every other type of punk activity you can imagine. One of many worthwhile news related projects about at the moment.

### GIBBERING MADNESS #4
PO BOX 298,
SHEFFIELD, S10 1YU

I couldn't believe it when this landed on the doorstep. #3 was meant to be the last we saw of this strange zine. I'm so glad it wasn't. This has the usual artwork and strange stories. This time its also got interviews with the likes of Paul Shrimpton (horror film maker) too! A bargain at only 50p. Good to see something a bit different to the endless stream of music zines that come my way.

### HELL & DAMNATION #2
22 BURNS VILLAS,
EAST LANE,
STAINFORTH,
DONCASTER, S.
YORKS, DN7 5DP

Stuff on Rectify, Rajoitus, Crow and Forca Macabra. This is a really fresh handwritten hardcore zine. Full of reviews and thoughts on Landmines and JSA. Colin really seems to have his head screwed on right. Top stuff from all over the world. I just can't believe you havn't sent off your 30p yet!

### LEGION OF THE DOOMED #2
5 ROOKE WAY,
GREENWICH,
LONDON, SE10 OJB

A bit scrappy but with the right attitude. Plenty of stuff here including live reviews (now that makes a change). You should write off for this now.

### GREEDY PIGS #1
19 BRINDLEY Rd,
HILLMORTON,
RUGBY, WARKS, CV21
4BJ

Started as a showcase for Jonathons art this weighs in heavy on creative thought if a little light on content. Brilliant collage work (as featured in this zine. An interesting project. I'm not too sure on price for this one. Still if you write you'll find out won't you.

### GREEDY PIGS #3
Bloody brilliant this! Interviews with Kickback Peligro and Stamping Ground. Full of artwork and creative stuff. A feature on how Hemp can save the world. Theres even some poetry by some dodgy desperado from Selby!? Again I'm not too sure on price but get writing anyway.

### LOSERDOM #7
They're coming out thick and fast. Columns, adverts, reviews and an interview with Rejected records. Top stuff and still free!

### PROFANE ESISTENCE #29/30
A fantastic double issue. Interviews with Active Minds, Suffer, Seein' Red and Diskonto. 5 scene reports and all the usual stuff you get from this consistent and well put together zine. You can get hold of this via Active and I recommend that you do.

### YOUNG ARNIE #3
PO BOX 148, HOVE,
BN3 3DQ

3rd installment of this comic anarchist. Brown on cream this time. You'll laugh as Arnie attacks an unnecessarily rich man. You'll cry as it all goes horribly wrong. You'll cheer as Arnie takes on the cops, and you'll sigh as its all over far too quickly... Bring back Arnie zine!

Thats enough reviews for this issue...

# ZINE REVIEWS

# Our man in...
# BOSTON

Boston at face value is RAWK central, lots of hair, leather, motorbikes and metal of the heavy variety. Beneath the surface however exisits a thriving underbelly of punk rock. It all centres around Lincolnshires HCHQ the Indian Queen pub. There are currently two gig collective type thingies: Firstly, and favouring emo/melodic/pop punk is the "Dibnah Youth" who recently put on Travis Cut - Jimmy Atterby, 86 Carlton Road, Boston, Lincs, PE21 8PQ. The second lot are basically Lee and the URKO lot, who prefer rage and brutal noise - Lee Winter, The Flat, Silver Court, Silver Street, Boston, Lincs, PE21 6JR. Both use the now legendary upstairs room at the IQ and usually get good turnouts. Get in touch as gigs are always planned.

Now what about the music? Fucking brilliant at present, loads of bands and plenty of interest in what is becoming an extremely healthy scene.

FACEACHE are blessed with possibly the most evil vocals your likely to come across. Playing a seriously pissed off and raging Hate-core style, they do manage to sneak in a few metalish moments. All this aural violence has been captured over two demo tapes, and should it ever see the light of day a Refusnik compilation 7". Get in touch with Lee as in the second gig type organiser people mentioned earlier.

Lee, the busiest man in punk rock, also drums for the mighty URKO and any band that names themselves after a character from Planet of the Apes gets a nod from me. Although often described as a Discharge style racket (and some nob from Terrorizer mag likened them to ENT) singer Daz assures me that there is a definate Japanese influence in there. They have at present a thunderous, but pretty old demo tape available, but should soon be releasing a split 7" with Chineapple Punx on Inflammable Material which I recently was fortunate enough to get a sneak preview of and it sounds fucking class. If you like HC which jumps out of the speakers and kicks you in the nads then write to Lee - same house as URKO etc etc.

If razor sharp melodic punk rock has you jumping around the room like a lunatic, then POINDEXTER are worth your time and effort if you can get to see em live. They play a mixture of 90s pop punk and early 80s DCHC, recently earning themselves a mention in the hallowed columns of MaximumRocknRoll. They have a fine five track demo available which you can get hold of from Darryl, 1a Sunningdale Drive, Boston, Lincs, PE21 8HZ.

If your into this emo lark you've probably already heard of the excellent TRIBUTE. They've had two vinyl outings and as with most emo bands I'll be buggered if I know what they're singing about! Try Subjugation distro (PO BOX 191, Darlington, DL3 8YN) and Spread distro (Flat 2, 1 Ascham Road, Cambridge, CB4 2BD) to get hold of their melody driven tunes, or write to the band themselves at 36 Spencer Close, West Walton, Wisbech, Cambs, PE14 7EN.

Further emo thrills are provided by Spalding based SIRFIS whose mad drummer Nick can be seen regularly looning around at local gigs in his own unique fashion. Playing a melodic and jangly form of emo along the lines of BOB TILTON but still with a sound of their own, you can get anything they have recorded, I think they have a demo, but don't quote me on that one, write to Nick "Captain Bawsey" at 37 Spalding Road, Holbeach, Spalding, Lincs, PE12 7HG. And as if that isn't enough emo fans we also have a local supergroup THE THIRD ESTATE who recently played with emo kings BOB TILTON at the 1in12 club. Made up of members from SIRFIS, POINDEXTER, TRIBUTE and now split up FEN TIGER (RIP) they cover a wide range of sounds. A melodic emo style is, I suppose the best way I can think to describe it, but that doesn't really do them justice. As drummer Little John would probably say, a bit experimental. If this sounds interesting then drop them a line for their tape at Welland House, I Welland Road, Boston, Lincs, PE21 7QA.

On the subject of all things experimental, we have the delightfully named PISS TANK TWAT, the self proclaimed Pharoahs of Fen punk. Playing what could loosely be described as "post-hardcore" their tape is a very strange affair indeed with songs about sandal sinners and covers of The Sweeny and Steptoe and Son, even managing to fit a harmonica in there. If any of this makes sense to you then, if you think you could handle it! write to Jas, 75 Winsover Road, Spalding, Lincs, PE11 1EQ.

Anarcho crusties PUS cover a wide range of 80s punk influences - think DISCHARGE, CRASS, CONFLICT, SUBHUMANS and your about there. Their singalongaPUS tape is a bit old now but bloody hell, amazing value for money - the first ep, second demo and loads of rehearsal stuff for a measly £2! More recently they have released "A life in fear" 7" which is an absolutely cracking single which I havn't stopped playing since I got it - seven anarcho gems with an up to date 90s feel. Buy this record now! Write for the fastest replies I have ever known to Nik & Nessa at Marston House, Main Road, Elm, Wisbech, Cambs, PE14 0AB, and keep an eye out for another single from PUS on a Japanese label. Fellow punkers COMBAT SHOCK play a similar sound to PUS but with an oi/street punk style. I don't know em personally but I heard they sort out gigs in that area, and flicking through issue 3 of WHY zine (Hello John) I see that Sonny out of the band does a zine. Write to them at 20 Milner Road, Wisbech, Cambs, PE13 2LR for a copy of their gloriously yobbish "Born to Booze" tape which is a mixture of anarcho rantings and drunkeness!

Several new bands have recently sprung up around the Boston scene THE MOTHS, LIMB FROM LIMB, and the ridiculously named CHICKEN SEX DEATH are all or have already made debut live appearances at the IQ and are developing into fine noise merchants. Any future developments by these bands as well as all the other goings on in Boston will hopefully be documented in the zine I am currently co-editing (Now then Michelle) called GADGIENYMPHCORE.
Issue one should be out soonish. So there you are then, if your interested in any of the bands or want a gig in Boston you've got no bloody excuse now. Come to Boston - it rocks! The scene is always growing and plenty of bands are pencilled in for the future. Alright thats it, oh yeah, if you want to know about the zine or want me to tape you any of the bands stuff get in touch with me MARV at 12a Dolphin Lane, Boston, Lincs, PE21 6EU and I'll see ya upstairs at the IQ! Quick hellos, then I'm out of here - Alright to Michelle (x) Daz, Lee, Craig, Jas, Dave, Jimmy, Luke, Lee, Chinny, Zak, Kate, Big & Little Johns, Boycey, Darryl, Graham Regal Centre, Damien & Captain Bawsey.

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COLUMN · COLUMN · COLUMN · COLUMN · COLUMN · COLUMN

**MEL HUGHES**

# GIGS

Rather than go through all the banal bullshit that most columnists go through in zines, I'll get to the point. But before I do, anyone reading this who intends to or already writes columns should quit dribbling about what they can't think about what to write and just say what you mean. No one is interested in your meaningless words.

So its party time and I'm going to write about gigs. I guess most people have their own reasons for going to a certain gig, but ultimatly its to see some band that they like. I first started going to punk gigs in 1985, the first being DISORDER in Belfast which was about 40 miles from my home town. Since then, most of the gigs I have attended in that city. These first gigs were held in pubs and it was a very close knit community where most people knew each other, even if only to nod. Raging bands such as STALAG 17, PINK TURDS IN SPACE and ASYLUM mostly supplied the soundtrack while we danced our little hearts out. At one of the first gigs I attended, I slipped and fell while out dancing, I expected someone to stand on me, but I was lifted to safety by a couple of people that I had never met in my life. I feel that this gesture, where strangers help out strangers, happens quite regular in the punk community. I always found someones floor to rest my weary head after a gig.

Apart from seeing manic H/C punk bands, these events were always a meeting place. You find information on music, non-music propaganda and get to discuss important things that the rest of society don't give a hoot about. Along with meeting old friends and making new ones, theres lots of bartering going on - so you can pick up any cool releases you've been after. Though I do think its a pity that alot of people just aren't interested in buying zines, especially non music related ones.

When gigs in Belfast moved to the art college, which were held on Saturday afternoons, it was ideal for my friends and I because it meant that we could get the bus back home the same day. Lots of bands from the UK and ones from further afield would play there and were greatly appreciated by the eager Irish punks. Sometimes Giros cafe would have veggie burgers on sale for us hungry mites, which were very welcome and cheap. Then after these events the cafe would open for more glorious vegan grub, offering an array of soups and whatever else was on the menu. The original Giros cafe was also the home of the Warzone collective which housed a practice room, anarchist library and a host of other things. I found, when I was at the 1in12 in Bradford to be very similar to it in its original state. Though the warzone centre didn't have the gig

# BARNEY GREENWAY

**SO WHY INTERVIEW BARNEY? WELL NAPALM DEATH ARE ONE OF THOSE BANDS YOU EITHER LOVE OR HATE. I LOVE EM. I WANTED TO ASK BARNEY ABOUT THE SPLIT. HERE HE TALKS ABOUT THE WAY IT ENDED, AS WELL AS HIS VIEWS ON THE DIY SCENE AND BOOTLEG TAPES.**

For those people who don't know, you're no longer in Napalm Death.

**Err, no I'm not.**

Do you want to tell us a bit about what happened there.

**Yeah well basically, the last few years really, our relationship had gone and suffered a little bit, and it was kind of... A lot of people kinda see Napalm Death as a democracy outside coz its the way we like to operate, during the good times and that. Amongst ourselves we're all for democracy and stuff. But it ceased to become that in the last few years, and what happened was obviously we became increasingly distant, and also we all wanted different things musically. For me personally I wanted to keep kinda the sense of non-compromise. Not that the other guys... They didn't want to be commercial or anything. They just wanted to do a few things which I felt, didn't compromise the band as such but, took the band a little too far for the time y'know.**

**I mean really I didn't have a problem with what happened too much. It was the way that it was done more than anything. I'm the sort of bloke whos pretty honest, and the way in which it was done was like, by the phone. And you would think that like, someone that you've worked with for eight years and been friends with for longer than that... It would've been done in a slightly different way than just a bloody phone call. Its like 'God have you got any fuckin' integrity' y'know. So I was a bit pissed off about that but now I don't really care and its one of them things.**

So it sounds like it was building up for quite a while.

**Yeah, it was DEFINATLEY building up for quite a while. I think that, to be perfectly honest with you its been that mad the last few months that I really can't remember a massive great deal of what went in. To the point where I've kinda tried to forget what happened and just concentrate on doing other things. Theres actually been a few developments since I last spoke to you actually but I can't really say anything at the moment. I don't really wanna say anything before things happen. Theres been a few developments and circumstances have changed, and thats all I can really say to you at the moment. I'd tell you more but I really can't at the moment. It was just like... Things just got a little bit stale between us as people, and the way we operate. Coz we still... Napalm kinda still operates on a really DIY level believe it or not. We're not controlled by any kind of... Unless you count Earache of course, any kind of big corporate thing. So we're pretty much an independant kind of enterprise if you want to call it that. So even in those situations tention can still build. Its really difficult living in each others pockets for so long. It gets really strained.**

**I think to a certain extent there was a definate lack of communication. I kida felt that I was giving respect but I wasn't getting it back, and if theres one thing that pisses me off its that you know what I mean? Everyone deserves a bit of fuckin' respect. Everyone deserves a chance and a bit of respect, and I think when you give it, and you don't get it back you get a bit short changed. That kind of bugged me a bit. I just felt that I wasn't being listened to in terms of my contributions to the music and stuff. I mean I'm sure you get the general drift of what happened from what I've told you. I can't really go into too much detail for the simple reason that, as I said earlier on, I can't really remember a great deal of what went on. I remember a lot...**

**No doubt about it we had some fucking great times. With Napalm we did a lot of good stuff. Really positive stuff like.**

Are you still in contact with them?

**Yeah, yeah. I've been with 'em today actually purporting to what I mentioned to you earlier on. Just sort of messing about and stuff. As I say we did a lot of positive stuff. We went out and we did a lot of fuckin' benefit stuff. Bits and pieces of like...**

**We went out into the hotbeds of like bigotry out in America. We went there and we fuckin' really got to grips with it and we really did some good stuff. There are definate things that you remember and you think 'Fuck, we did achieve something'. I'm quite proud of that, being able to do that side of things.**

Okay, so your putting together a new band. Nothing but contempt. What sort of thing are you going to be doing with them? Is it going to be much like the stuff you were doing with Napalm?

**Its gonna be more manic than Napalm. Its gonna be a cross between all that American stuff like Seige and stuff like that, which is still for me... I mean, you must know about Seige!? I mean, thats like, one of my favourite bands y'know? I love all that kinda underground stuff so, its gonna be kind of mixed between that and that other band, Repultion. Which is like the more metallic side. Which is another total favourite band of mine... So its gonna be mad. Like fast and furious. A bit of Discharge, but hopefully I can make it so its not generic. I mean its not going to be generic but at the same time its not gonna be fucking limp, or fucking lightweight or anything like that. Its gonna be fucking full on might.**

You made it nationally known you were looking to recruit a new band. Did you get a good response from that?

**I did actually. Really good, but I think a lot of kids still misunderstand, when your talking about where Napalm comes from. A lot people still can't get their heads round that y'know a lot of people outside that sort of underground circle that was around, and still is to a certain extent. A lot of kids outside that don't understand when they hear that your doing something extreme these days they automatically assume its something like Korn. Something like that which (laughs) I don't want nothing to do with that personally! So I got all these kids writing that were really enthusiastic, and that accounts for a lot. They were writing and saying y'know, I saw your advert and I'd like to have a go at... we want to do something like Korn. I looked at it and I thought no. Thats not where I'm leading. Its not for everyone to know the sort of stuff that I grew up on, but I was looking for someone who had a bit more knowhow in that field.**

**I mean the guy from the band Cancer, who I was in a band with actually, me and Carl were in this band. It was like ultra fast and from being in that I saw Carl playing the drums and I never knew... He never played really manic drums in Cancer but after seeing him do that I knew he could do it so he was one of the first blokes I thought of. Got in touch with him and he wasn't doing anything and he was up for it so we said right lets do it. So he came over my house like and had a chat about it. We said Yeah! Lets fuckin' go for it! I got a letter from a kid through that ad as well from Walsall which is near here, and he was up for it, he knew about the stuff and Carl found this guitarist guy from Telford. He was up for it as well so we thought lets fuckin' do it! So we're doing it at the moment. Actually we're just doing a couple of covers by Repulsion just to see how we can play together. Second rehearsal and its all coming together quite fucking swimmingly. So I'm quite chuffed. Its a nice feeling, and I'm enjoying myself again. One of the big down points towards the end on Napalm is that I was not enjoying it.**

So basically you've just got the band together. Do you intend to form any sort of plans about what your going to be doing with them?

**No, I mean even now I'm still... even now you try to distance yourself from it. I've just seen a lot of this fuckin' music business fuckin' yahoo stuff. All these bands are starting up and they've got fuckin' stars in their eyes. At the end of the day your a legend in your own brain. The thing is I'm a realist with a bit of Karma as well. I think as long as you do whats in your head and whats in your heart you won't go far wrong. Be honest with yourself. No being kind of unaspiring but as long as you do it and give it your enthusiasm and just see what follows then you won't go far wrong. Then if things don't work then at least you can always say well I fuckin' held my head up high but I did what I had to do and I did what I felt was right, and thats all I can do. Obviously we eventually want to record an album and stuff but thats a pretty long way off in the future. I havn't even thought about that so... Even when we do I shall consider my options carefully because I've been ripped off a lot of times and theres no fuckin' way that I'm gonna be ripped off again!! Not by NO-ONE! No fuckers gonna get away with doing that to me again. So I'm going to consider my options really carefully and I mean if it comes to the crunch we'll put an album out ourselves which I'd rather do anyway.**

So your looking more towards, basically we're talking, like you were saying being closer to the DIY thing. One thing that I noticed with Napalm was they get a lot of shit from people in the underground for signing to Earache. Was that something that ever bothered you?

**Not particularly no. I mean the Earache thing wasn't an issue. If people actually saw how Earache operates then they'd probably think a little different. Having said that though, don't get me wrong. Believe you me, me and Digby Pearson... I fucking can't... I absolutley despise that bloke. I... actually, I don't want to go too much into that coz I'll start going off on one. Its not the fact of the label itself. Its the fact that Digby... He seems to assume that he's got this power base that he can fucking manipulate people. At the end of the day these people that are slagging off bands for signing to Earache, they should go and tell fucking Earache about their problems with Earache. These bands are in no different position as to what the DIY bands are. They're just in a different senario. Its just young kids with bands that want to do a record, and thats it. Thats the simple fact. If people have got problems with Earache they should go and fucking talk to Earache about them. If they can get hold of him mind (laughs). They're looking at the wrong people to blame. If your gonna have a problem with anyone you have a problem with Digby. The guy, he's fucking power mad, he treats his staff like slaves and at the end of the day, if people have got a problem they really should look a bit deeper than the band. Its NOT the bands fault.**

**I agree Napalm get a lot of shit off the underground people. But all i would say is if you've got a problem look at what Napalm have done over the years for opening peoples minds. What have you done? Simple as that. I'm y'know... hats off to people in the DIY scene, but just don't create divisions where divisions don't need to be created.**

**I was around in 84 when the hardcore scene.. I was there and the thing that really killed that scene was that a lot of people were so closed minded and they didn't want to let people on the outside into the scene. It wasn't a question of letting arseholes into the scene. It was a question of people who were genuinely interested in the music, the way of going about things and the ideals. If spreading and developing that kind of message is a bad thing then, why are you doing it? A lot of the DIY bands that are out there that I've heard are fucking great. I really like em. They're fuckin' raw, mad and I love it. I really do. Don't get on my case. Its other people that you should be getting on. If your going to have a problem then go and rant and rave outside John Majors doorstep. Look at the real problems. The real problem people in society. Not the people who are just trying to achieve the same thing as you. They're just doing it a little differently.**

Earache have just released the last Napalm release with your vocals on. Did you have a say in that?

**I was quite happy for em to do that because of the message thats on the sleeve and that. One of my things is... I mean I don't know wether you know this but I'm an ultra-strict vegetarian. I have been for 14 years and animal rights and animal welfare is something thats very high on my personal agenda and will continue to be for the rest of my life. Its something that I think, once you have a genuine passion for that it never leaves you. That is a real thing for me. And the whole concept behind the sleeve is... I know its been done many times but its a problem that never goes away and err...**

Its a pretty sick looking sleeve.

**Yeah, I know yeah! Its a cows tongue split in half. Thats what it is. I think that message pretty much... Well, I HOPE it hits home anyway. I hope that people do see that. Coz thats what its meant to signify anyway.**

**I didn't have a problem with them releasing it because they're my tracks on there, y'know I wrote the vocals for that track 'food chain'. Its about this age old concept of people saying 'well once you've put a living being into a cow pen and treat it the way you do, prod it with electric prods before putting a bolt through its head, its not going to feel pain. Which is a ludicrous statement. I was trying to re-itterate on that and so I was quite chuffed that the thing came out. I'm sure a lot of people do understand that its one of the more blatent sets of lyrics that I wrote in my years with Napalm so...**

So you basically feel like your starting again. You not trying to carry off where you left off with Napalm.

**Yeah, to a certain extent people are going to say that I'm carrying on where I left off, but why not if the stuff that I was doing with Napalm was... if I enjoyed it so much. A lot of the kids that left Napalm before really went out and strived to do something completely different because they thought 'what are people gonna think if I do something the same'. The way I look at it is its not going to be the same, at least I'm gonna try not to make it the same. At the same time I've always been chuffed with playing fast music. Always... and thats what I'm going to do. Coz thats what floats my boat y'know. I fuckin' love playing manic music and thats what I'm going to do. If people say that then thats fine. They're entitled to their opinion. I'm doing it because its whats in my heart, whats in my head. I'll be chuffed doing it. Plus, its not a trend to play fast music. I'd like to think that there's still life left in that music. I think its going to be fairly revolutionary possibly to do that sort of thing now. Although doubtless theres a lot of bands on the underground still doing that anyway.**

I can remember seeing a video of you showing your record collection off. Are you really sort of a manic record collector or are you quite selective?

**No my tastes are fuckin' far far reaching. I believe in, aside from the message of the lyrics, I believe in the spirit of music. Music is a great thing. Its a great medium, and theres been some great bands. Theres a lot of bands around now on the bigger kind of stage that are so protective of their own selves, with their own paranoia and their own music that they're reluctant to really champion anything else. They think that they should just be thinking about what they're doing. I've never been like that. Ever since I was a kid I was a fan of hard music and stuff. I like anything from like AOR to mad hardcore, for the music. I'm not ashamed to admit that. I like if you wanna call it, guitar wank music y'know. I like that sort of stuff...**

Yngwie Malmsteen.

**Yeah, I fucking love that stuff. I really do because I think the musicianship is just brilliant. Anyone that can do that stuff I take my hat off to em. I've got no problem with that whatsoever. But then I could bang on something by Siege or Discharge or whatever. I can be equally chuffed with that. I think, once again with the DIY scene sometimes it can get very oppressive in that sense. Musical freedom is something that is not as free as it would like to believe. Thats something which I find again is a bit wrong. I find it a bit hypocritical.**

From what I can remember the first record you bought was No Remorse by Motorhead.

**Well no the first album was Motorhead.**

What do you think of the stuff that they're doing now?

**I actually like it. A lot of people don't. I do because I think they've gone back to being heavy again. Motorheads one of them bands for me that, if I was to look over the years that I've been in music (22 years), if theres only one band that has affected me its Motorhead. They went a bit shit to me for a while but the newer ones... I got the Sacrifice album which is bloody tremendous. I fuckin' love it.**

So what are your views on bootleg tapes and live tapes?

**I've no problem with it whatsoever.**

Do you think they help the bands?

**Yeah absolutley. Why would it not? The only time I've got a problem with it is when people are doing bootlegs, pressing them and selling them for 15 quid. What the fucks that all about. I think its taking the fucking piss. I really do. I've been to record fairs and I've picked out Napalm records and I'll say, 'what the fucks this?' y'know 'I'm the vocalist for this band and what the fuck do you think your doing selling this for 15 quid'. I tell em. I don't give a fuck I mean I've been thrown out of a couple of em but I think its a travasty. If I did a bootleg and sold it for that I'd be absolutley ashamed. Its taking the fucking piss. When you can press a record for like a quid in bulk. Its a fucking joke.**

**But bootleg tapes and that all for it me. I used to do it myself. Trade em round. No problems with it whatsoever. Napalm shows people come in with tape recorders and we tell the blokes on the door don't stop em. If they wanna tape it let them. We let people video the shows. Anything, whatever they like.**

What do you think of the current trend of bands getting back together to do tours and stuff like KISS (top band!!!)?

**Right, I think Kiss is kind of the wrong band to mention to me coz I was never a big fan. I thought they were... I actually prefered the stuff after they took the makeup off. It was a bit more... It was American pop rock but I liked it. The stuff before that I thought the image spoke louder than the music and as much as that kind of theatrics was entertaining up to a point but... I didn't think the music was really that great to be perfectly honest with you. I never liked em. I liked Creatures of the night onwards really.**

I got hold of a bootleg of the new album that they're not going to release now.

**Right. So they've actually done an album and they're not going to put out? That surprises**

# More Barney

**me because if theres ever a man who fucking lives and breathes money its Gene Simmons.**

He couldn't be poor if he tried could he.

**Yeah exactly. Good line that! But yeah, artists and even I find bands and that are just so paranoid about their music getting out to people. Ok I can understand it if its an album thats just gonna come out and it goes here, there and everywhere and every fuckers heard it before you put the album out. That I can understand but live tapes and shit like that. Fucking come on man, its gonna let more people hear your band so, to use an American expression chill out man.**

So what are your views on bands like Burzum and Emporer who use satanism to sell records?

**Well I had a bit of a run in with a few of them kids actually because of the ideology behind it. Make no excuses for it the shit they were pouring out was fuckin' right wing and it was the words of scumbags for me. It was like getting a few Nazi skins and just giving them long hair and a few studs. Metalheads were getting terrorised. Y'know kids who genuinley wanted to go and see gigs. So that meant to me it was out of order. Having said that some of the Emporer stuff and that, is actually musically very good. No doubt about it. But I find this kind of intense patriotism very hard to stomach. The good thing about it is you can take the piss out of it coz its like, fucking get a life mate! Sort yourself out. As I say musically I'm open minded to anything. When it comes down to having to listen to right wing propoganda... We have enough of that when we go to America and play shitholes like Allentown Pennsylvania when we get half the fucking white power movement of the east coast of America running after us down the road. We certainly don't want to hear it from kids playing metal in Europe. Thats the last thing I want to hear when I come back over here. But they've threatened me directly and y'know I've got a bit of a bolshy streak coz if someone threatens me I'll say fuck it come on then. I'll go for it. I don't give a shit y'know. I used to be a pacifist a few years ago, but then I realised that people like to walk over you.**

**FROM THERE THE CONVERSATION DRFITED INTO WHAT BANDS ARE ON EACH OF OUR PERSONAL PLAYLISTS AND ALSO THE MERITS OF FOOTBALL. AS I'M SHORT ON SPACE I'LL LEAVE IT THERE. YOU CAN CONTACT BARNEY C/O THIS ZINE.**

# More of Mels Column

**venue or bar, but the whole attitude and the way it was run was quite similar.**

**I have always felt at home at gigs and enjoyed them a million times more than any pub or disco. The only time I didn't feel at home at a gig was at FUGAZI in Dublin in 1995. There were people walking round with walkie talkies and they were big guys with 'Security' on their T-Shirts. There was also one of those barrier things just at the front of the satge. I thought to myself 'What the fuck am I doing here?' We don't need bouncers or any of that crap.**

**The idea of money and gigs has always been a dodgy subject. Its not the early 80s and CRASS have long gone. I certainly would have no problem paying £5 to get into a gig that had a fair number of bands playing. I do think bands should get a decent percentage of the door takings. I can't understand why people are so mean in this department, like you can't have everything for free.**

**I have always been to gigs to enjoy myself and I find it strange when people look so miserable and unapproachable, but I do wish people would try to get as much out of a gig as possible and enjoy themselves as much as they can. If they can learn something in the process, well thats one of the pluses of our DIY scene after all, knowledge. Take care and stay aware, if John doesn't give me the elbow then we'll see you in the next issue.**

**Oops! I've run out of room! All ads, and stuff left to review will be carried to the next issue. Back to 52 pages but with the new smaller text. The print run will be 800 (ish)**

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GO AHEAD PUNK... MAKE MY DAY

Well then here we are with WHY #4. I've been wanting to do a split issue for some time now and finally its arrived. Those who have read WHY before will notice a few layout differences with this issue. The biggest thing is the smaller type. This is for two reasons. a) I only have 20 pages and I still want to pack in as much as I usually fit into 52. b) This is possible because we have got this properly printed. If I used type this small usually you wouldn't be able to read it. If at all possible I'd like to continue getting the zine printed properly. It all depends on how successful this issue is though.

Those of you who haven't read WHY before will hopefully find something you like. I always try and encourage creativity in all its forms. That means that you will find artwork and the odd poem here and there. Also I may cover music that you don't necessarily see as 'punk'. I always have my reasons for including something. If its not clear then you can always write and ask.

I'm always looking for contributions of any kind. If you feel you want to contribute then don't hold back! Thanks for buying this issue.

**WHY, PO BOX 53,**
**SELBY,**
**NORTH YORKSHIRE**
**YO8 9YZ, UK**

I can't finish off this bit without saying that I'm still looking for nice folk to distro this zine for me. If you can help me in any way please write. Also if you write a zine and can review this it would also be great. Sending out free copies is really costly and, although I love to do it I can't always afford to.

At the time of writing this I've only sent off one interview and got none back. People seem to think its odd writing the intro before doing the rest of the zine. I don't see why I should tell you whats here anyway. You'll just have to read it!

If you have any comments, questions, requests, contributions, stuff for review please don't hesitate to send it to the PO Box. Thanks & Peace. John.

# WHY NEWS

Well first off if you didn't manage to get hold of WHY #3 its still available from me and various distros. I won't bore you with a big list of whats in it. Its big and its bouncy and its 60p + SAE. I'm starting up a small DIY tape label type thing too. So far I've done 3 tapes. 2 are spoken word (by me), and the 3rd is a new comp. tape called WHY VOLUME 1. For the open-minded only this contains everything from Hardcore to cider-punk and from Goth to barroom Jazz. If you'd like to get hold of a copy its £2.00ppd (or a trade from the PO box.

1997 is set to be a busy year for me too. Firstly I want to expand my distro. I plan to be popping up at gigs and doing stalls as much as possible. I think thats pretty much it for now. I hope to put stuff out on the tape label on a fairly regular basis too.

# POETRY

NOT PART OF MY SPOKEN WORD STUFF
(for a change)

## THE TRAVELLER

I am an empty fool,
No feelings live inside me,
A shrine to the past,
That never should be,
Uncomfortably numb,
In this crass sanity,

I wander alone,
A gibbering wreck,
I ask myself what is it like,
To be dead,
Time makes you bleed,
At what price do we heal?

Death in life and,
Life in death,
I laugh at the joke,
Many truths said in jest,
I wander alone,
My trail is long,
Through many dangers,
My quest to belong,

An empty fool,
Uncomfortably numb,
I look back and see,
How little I've done,
I don't go so far,
For the distance I've run.

# WHY?

With grateful thanks to:
Andy Cactus, Keef, Mel Hughes, all the folk interviewed, Chris Wheelchair, Andy Turner, Jonathon Baker, John Binns, Evan, Mike, anyone else that contributed or helped me out in any way. A big than you to all the distros that help me out and to everyone I write to.

Extra special thanks to Steve Ripping Thrash for entering into this with me.

Without the co-operation of others we could not achieve half of what we do achieve.

RIPPING THRASH ZINE
C/O STEVE
P O BOX 152
BURTON-ON-TRENT
STAFFS DE14 1XX
ENGLAND

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HALLE 54,SPITE, FUNBUG, LITHUANIA SCENE REPORT, PUNK'S KINDA NICE RIGHT NOW, AND A BUCKETLOAD OF REVIEWS ETC! Cover art by Colin Astro.

## BACK ISSUES:

#12 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE, LOADS OF COPIES STILL AVAILABLE, PRICE 50p + SAE
#9 (JAWBREAKER, ENGLISH DOGS ETC) 50p + SAE
#7 (DR & THE CRIPPENS ETC) 10p + SAE
#4 (RAPED TEENAGERS ETC) 10p + SAE
ALL OTHER ISSUES SOLD OUT. COPIES OF #11 (SPLIT WITH HELL AND DAMNATION) STILL AVAILABLE FROM HELL AND DAMNATION ADDRESS (SEE ZINE REVIEW SECTION!) FOR 70P + SAE (OR £1 PPD)
LOOK OUT FOR RT #14 OUT IN JULY/AUGUST 97 - I HAVE SOME STUFF DONE FOR IT ALREADY, SO HOPEFULLY IT'LL BE OUT ON TIME!!! (GASP..)

## EDITORIAL MARCH 20TH 1997:

Hello again and welcome to another issue of RT. Why a Problem Child special issue? Well, Paul was kind enough to send me a load of stuff that he received after packing in his excellent zine, so a lot of the contributions are his! The Spite and Funbug interviews are his, and he also sent me a fair bit of stuff to review. Cheers mate. Contributions make all the difference! Thanks to John for wanting to do this split with me, and for help/friendship in general. Mega thanks also to Barry,Chrisz Meier and Domas for their contributions. And thanks to Colin for more super cover art! Finally, thanks to all the other people who help me in any way, too many to name, and thanks/hello to Andras and Michelle for putting me up on my recent travels!
More distros needed for this zine, as there's 900 of these floating about!! Also, there are still loads of copies of RT12 around, so I need more help with distro of those... See you in the summer! Steve.

## AD RATES FOR RT#14

The ad rates have been a bit fucked up lately, so here now are some set rates. I want more of your ads, especially zines and DIY distros! The rates for #14 are: Full Page £10 Half Page £6 Quarter Page £2. Deadline for ads & money to be in is 10/7/97, OK? Probably best to write first to see what space I have left!!

# NEWS:

**H.S.S. is currently a show being aired on Cable Radio Milton Keynes (CRMK).**
Anyone wishing to send CDs and vinyl for airplay, please forward with biog, info etc to: **ANNE MARIA / HARDCORE STREET SOUNDS / CRMK / 14 VINCENT AVENUE / MILTON KEYNES / MK8 0AB.**
This is a specialised show and caters for punk, oi!, hardcore, crossover and some extreme metal, the show is on every Saturday 10pm to Midnight. (Demos welcomed too).

**Greek band CHAOTIC END**, featured two issues ago in the split with Hell and Damnation, have split up, due apparently to purely musical differences. A new band called **HIBERNATION** have formed from their ashes, and they have the typical Chaotic End sound. I've heard a good quality rehearsal from them, and it's ace, so watch out for more from them.....

**News from the DS4A camp:**
hopefully a Police Bastard / P.A.I.N split LP out this year, plus new releases by Crass (!) and Oi Polloi...
**Write to: BOX 8 / 82 COLSTON STREET / BRISTOL.**

## NOT THAT KIND OF TWAT by John Binns

I do not feel well,
And I feel like hell
Has descended on me,
And I cannot see
Very far.

So lead me to the bar,
No cancel that,
Fir I am not
That kind of twat
Anymore
For
I have learned the score.

John Binns
14 Silver Royd Close
Wortley
Leeds
LS12 4QZ.

The Halle 54 piece on the following page was originally meant for the last issue, as an 10 year anniversary piece, as I have been in semi-regular contact with Chrisz from Halle 54 for most of the ten years, and one of my first comp tapes featured one of their early demos. Alas, the piece didn't arrive until #12 was being printed, but it's an interesting little piece, so I thought I'd still include it this time. Thanks to Chrisz for contributing.